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YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الراي

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YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

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## Regent visits Mafraq Governorate

MAFRAQ (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, called at Umm Al Rusas sub-district in Mafraq Governorate where he visited Umm Al Rusas school, inspected classrooms and listened to the remarks from its teachers. The Regent also visited Bani Saqr tribe where the tribesmen welcomed the Crown Prince and celebrated the occasion of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day.

## Prince Mohammad returns home

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, and Her Royal Highness Princess Taghrid returned home Tuesday after a several-day private visit to the United Kingdom. Prince Mohammad and Princess Taghrid were received upon arrival by Private Chamberlain Prince Ali Ben Nayef, senior Royal Court officials and government officials.

## Japanese prince, princess visit Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Rahma Bint Al Hassan on Tuesday accompanied Japan's Prince and Princess Takamado on a trip to Aqaba where they were briefed by Aqaba Regional Authority Director-General Fayed Khawneh on the authority's efforts to promote tourism in Aqaba and the facilities offered to investors. Prince and Princess Takamado, accompanied by Princess Rahma, also visited the SOS-village in Aqaba and were briefed on the services offered to children there. They were accompanied by the Japanese ambassador to Jordan, the Jordanian ambassador to Japan and members of the Japanese delegation accompanying the Japanese prince.

## Kabariti condoles Bahraini counterpart

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti on Tuesday sent a cable to his Bahraini counterpart, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, condoling him over the death of Sheikh Mohammad Ben Ali Ben Ahmad Al Thani.

## Srouf leaves for Paris

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Saad Hayel Srouf left for Paris on Tuesday at the head of a parliamentary delegation on a two-day official visit to France. Mr. Srouf will hold talks on bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region with his French counterpart Philippe Seguen.

## Erbakan plays down secularist fears

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Islamist leader Necmettin Erbakan, seeking to form a coalition government, on Tuesday tried to calm secularist fears that he would introduce religion to public life and break Turkey's ties to the West. "We are not here to behave as partisans or split the state, but to prepare a base for the state to function in harmony," Mr. Erbakan told a meeting of his Islam-based Welfare Party (RP).

## 26 dead, 200 hurt in Brazil mall blast

SAO PAULO (R) — At least 26 people were killed and 200 injured when an explosion tore through a Sao Paulo shopping mall crowded with lunchtime shoppers, local television reported. Globo TV, quoting firefighters at the scene, said the powerful blast destroyed two floors of a restaurant section of the Osasco shopping plaza in a middle-class suburb of the city Sao Paulo.

# Mideast wants peace but needs world help — King

New York University honours HM with doctorate in law

NEW YORK (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein has expressed his belief that "the dividends of peace will not be limited to the countries directly involved in the peace process, but that they will benefit all the countries in the (Middle East) region, and it is in everyone's interest to support the process."

"We know, too, that our friends in other parts of the world, particularly here in the United States, will stand with us in this undertaking," said King Hussein in a speech at New York University upon accepting an honorary doctorate of laws.

"Jordan demonstrates daily that it is deeply committed to social and economic development to democracy and responsible political pluralism and to peace and stability. All of these stem from and depend upon a principle we share with your deep-rooted respect for human national and international law," said the King in his address delivered at the university Monday.

King Hussein called for the Middle East peace process to begin again and asked for increased economic aid for the region.

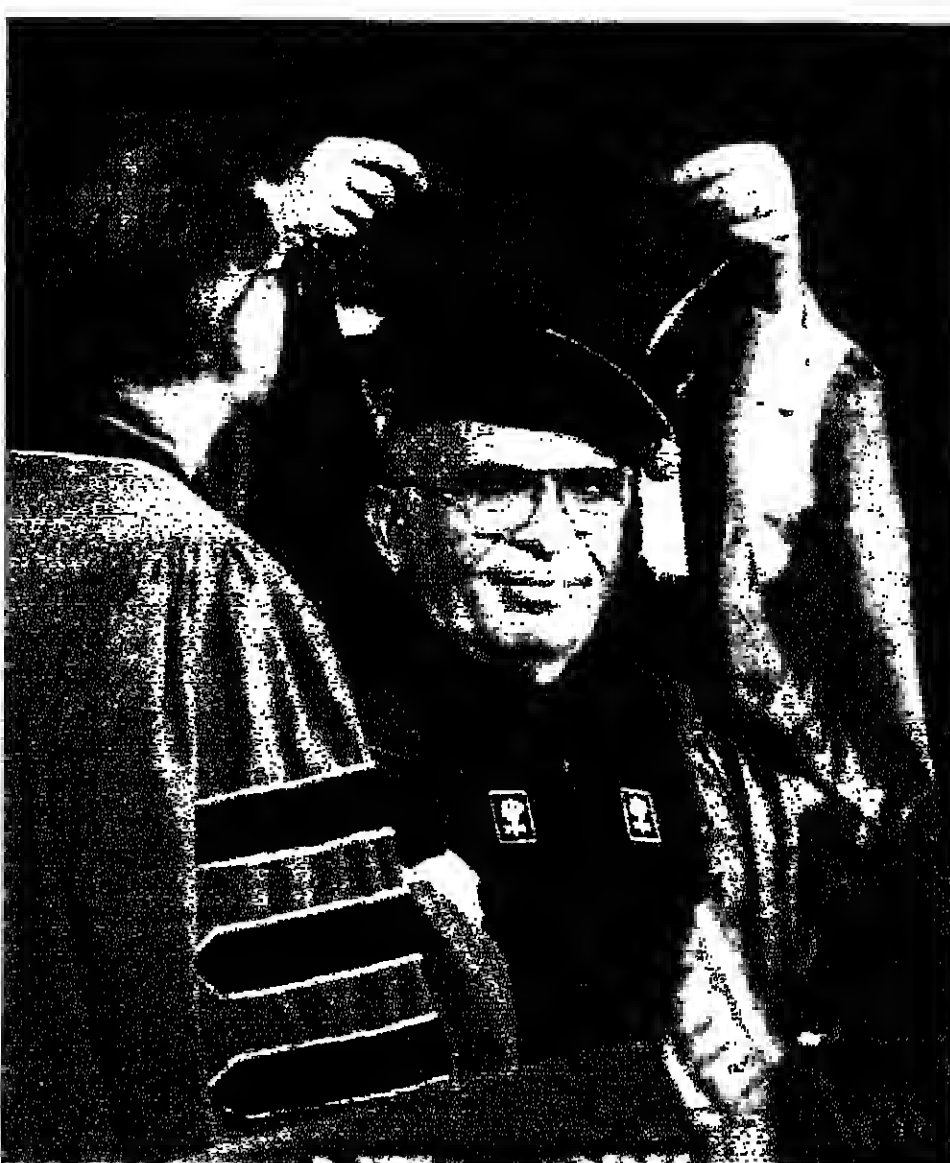
"The peace process needs to be resumed, with increased energy," he said.

"I hereby reiterate the commitment of Jordan to cooperate with all parties and spare no effort," he said. "It is not so easy — everywhere there are forces and ideologies united in destroying the peace we build."

The King said the peace process will require economic aid to take root.

"We (the Middle East countries) urgently require assistance of all our friends," he said.

King Hussein was to meet with President Bill Clinton in Washington Thursday to discuss peace process and the rise to power of Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu in



His Majesty King Hussein is Monday given an honorary doctorate in law by New York University President Dr. L. Jay Oliva (left) and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Phillip Furmanski (right). (Reuters photo)

law, King Hussein said, noting Jordan's constitution is one of the region's oldest.

"Jordan and its people have avoided the ravages of terrorism and political violence," Mr. Hussein said. "Peace must be carefully and lovingly nurtured."

King Hussein was awarded

the honorary doctorate by New York University for his dedication to democracy and his efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

"King Hussein has been an inspiring voice in the forums of the world during difficult

(Continued on page 7)

## Netanyahu says he will deal with Hizbollah 'forcefully'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu said Tuesday he would deal forcefully with Hizbollah guerrillas who killed five Israeli soldiers in an ambush in South Lebanon this week.

The attack — the deadliest in southern Lebanon since a U.S.-brokered ceasefire stopped virtual war two months ago — came at a delicate time of transition in Israel following the May 29 election.

Outgoing Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Monday he would retaliate against Hizbollah in due time. However, Mr. Peres was not expected to order a major military strike in his last days in office, especially after several cabinet ministers said Monday they opposed such a move.

Mr. Netanyahu, who will assume power only later this month, suggested Tuesday that he would take a tougher stance than Mr. Peres.

"We are witnessing a very harsh terrorist attack on our soldiers," Mr. Netanyahu said. "We need to act forcefully and with determination."

"When we form our government, and I hope it will be soon, we will deal with it in our way," the leader of the right-wing Likud Party said after a meeting with President Ezer Weizman.

Israeli military experts were divided over whether a harsh retaliation was effective against Hizbollah.

Some, including Zeev Schiff of the Haaretz daily, said the guerrillas had already made a remarkable recovery after their severe

pounding during Israel's 16-day air and artillery blitz in April. The operation, a response to Hizbollah rocketing of northern Israel, killed at least 200 people, mostly Lebanese civilians.

Deputy Defence Minister Ori Orr said the army had only limited options and that there was no sure way, short of a peace agreement with Lebanon and Syria, to prevent Hizbollah attacks.

However, others said the outgoing government had tied the army's hands, and that Israeli soldiers, if only given freedom of action, could put Hizbollah on the defensive.

Army chief Amnon Shahak said the Hizbollah had violated the U.S. brokered understanding.

"We will operate against Hizbollah terrorists wherever they are, including the villages. And I assume that since they are situated very close to or alongside... civilians, it could bring us back to a situation where civilians will also be hurt in South Lebanon," Lieutenant-General Shahak told Israel's army radio.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said it was too early to say if the attack represented a ceasefire violation. He also called on Hizbollah to "cease and desist" its attacks on Israeli soldiers.

Israeli forces initially responded to the ambush by shelling villages and guerrilla infiltration trails near the market town of Nabatiyeh, which faces the occupied area that Israel calls a "security

zone."

A Lebanese army sergeant was killed and a civilian man was wounded in the shell fire, according to police in Nabatiyeh.

The five dead Israeli soldiers were buried on Tuesday. Eight wounded soldiers remain in hospital.

A hardline Israeli government headed by Mr. Netanyahu will likely reignite a violent uprising among Palestinians and heighten tensions with Syria and Lebanon, a leading Labour Party lawmaker warned Tuesday.

"I fear a renewed uprising, but far more grave than we saw before," said Hagai Merom, the outgoing chairman of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee.

Mr. Merom said he based his gloomy outlook on a draft of Mr. Netanyahu policy guidelines released Monday to the media.

The document placed conditions on continuing peace talks with the Palestinians, ruled out the Palestinians' key goal of an independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital and asserted that Israel should hold onto the Golan Heights.

Cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian security branches on fighting militants would cease if the new government did not fulfill the pledge by Mr. Peres to withdraw troops from Hebron.

Mr. Merom warned, Mr. Netanyahu has been ambiguous on this issue.

Some members of the

(Continued on page 7)

## U.S. government notifies Congress on supply of F-16 planes to Jordan

WASHINGTON (R) — The Clinton administration has advised Congress it intends to supply F-16 warplanes to Jordan, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said on Tuesday. Mr. Christopher, standing alongside King Hussein told reporters: "I'm glad to say in the presence of the King that we have sent the notification with respect to the F-16s to Capitol Hill."

"That's a very important step in the process, and we intend to proceed with that in the customary way," Mr. Christopher said, speaking before a lunch with the King, who is on an official visit to Washington. U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry said in January that the United States planned to provide a squadron of 16 F-16 jet fighters to Jordan. Other officials have made clear the move is linked with Jordan's decision to sign a peace treaty with Israel in 1994. "We think that those F-16s are an important aspect of the security of Jordan, and they're really a reflection of what President Clinton has said so many times... and that is for those who have taken the risks for peace, the United States

wants to help them and to help them to minimise the risks of peace," Mr. Christopher said.

Petra adds: King Hussein had a closed door meeting with Mr. Christopher. The meeting was followed by an expanded meeting attended by officials from both sides.

Discussion at the two meetings focused on the latest developments in the Middle East peace process, especially after the election of Likud Party leader

(Continued on page 7)

## Cairo summit not a threat to Israel, Egyptian official says

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Arab summit in Cairo next week will not threaten Israel, an adviser to President Hosni Mubarak said Tuesday, seeking to allay fears in the United States and Israel.

Osama Al Baz, Mr. Mubarak's top political adviser, said the summit would focus on Arab solidarity as well as the election of right-wing Benjamin Netanyahu as Israel's prime minister.

"If there are challenges from the Israeli government and the possibility of change in its position, this will be discussed in a calm, objective, logical fashion, far from hysterics, threats and insults," Mr. Baz said.

Twenty one of the Arab League's 22 members will attend the three-day summit, which begins June 21. It will be the largest gathering of Arab leaders since the 1991 Gulf war.

Arab League Secretary

General Esmat Abdul-Meguid confirmed that Somalia will be represented by its ambassador to the Arab League. Egyptian officials had said that Somalia's anarchy will prevent it from sending a representative. This leaves only Iraq which was not invited.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria, three heavyweights in the Arab World, called for the summit last week to agree on an Arab stance following Mr. Netanyahu's election. Some Arab countries have also hailed it as a first step in uniting a deeply divided Arab World.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher urged Arab countries not to take any action that would preclude a relationship between them and the new Israeli government.

Mr. Christopher said the United States has urged all parties "not rush to judgement... until a new Israeli

government is formed."

Mr. Baz said such fears were unjustified.

"We are not here to threaten or to confront people with a fait accompli. Since we rejected it from others, we do not do it ourselves," he said. "We remain open and we remain hopeful."

Syria urged Mr. Christopher on Tuesday to put pressure on Israel instead of telling Arab leaders to keep the doors to peace talks open.

The official Al Baath newspaper said Mr. Christopher's appeal to Arab states was "illogical" and "should be directed to those who are really closing this door."

"This three Arab leaders who met in Damascus affirmed their commitment to a just and comprehensive peace as a strategic option. The forthcoming Cairo summit will also stress the same stand," the newspaper said.

## New Iraq-U.N. dispute reported

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The United Nations and Iraq are involved in a new dispute over arms inspections near Baghdad, diplomats and U.N. sources said on Tuesday.

"There is a problem with access to certain sites in Iraq," said one envoy, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the U.N. Special Commission

in charge of ridding Iraq of weapons of mass destruction, spoke to the president of the Security Council. Members said they expected a briefing on the controversy later in the day.

U.N. inspectors, led by Nikita Smidovich of Russia, had attempted to inspect two sites, one of them a Republican Guard facility. His 30-man team was blocked for eight hours and eventually

withdrawn, the diplomats said.

Mr. Smidovich led a similar team in March in a search for possible hidden missile launchers and documents that resulted in several stand-offs between the arms experts and Iraqi authorities.

U.N. sources said Mr. Ekeus had already been in touch with Iraq's deputy

(Continued on page 7)

## Assad was targetted in blast — report

LONDON (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad was the target of a recent bomb attack in Damascus, the Financial Times reported Tuesday quoting senior Arab political sources.

The sources confirmed claims dismissed by Damascus — by the United States last week that there had been frequent explosions in Syria over the past month.

It said a bomb exploded on May 6 on the route that the Syrian leader was to have taken to an annual commemoration of nationalists executed by the Ottoman empire late last century.

Mr. Assad did not in the end attend the ceremony, it added.

Since the explosion, Syrian security services have arrested around 600 people, mostly among the country's ethnic Turkish community, according to the Financial Times.

It noted that the arrests indicate that Damascus suspects Turkey of trying to undermine Syrian stability. Relations between the two countries are strained, with Turkey accusing Syria of allowing the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which has been waging a separatist war in southeastern Turkey, to train on its terri-

tory, the Syrian government has denied the claim.

Syria in return has sharply criticised Turkey's recent military accord with Israel, which provides for training of Israeli air force pilots at Turkish bases.

The two countries are also at odds over Turkish plans to dam the River Euphrates. There have also been two recent call-ups of army reservists in Syria, the Financial Times added Tuesday.

The sources quoted by the daily added that for the past month, Mr. Assad has been working out of Latakia, the heartland of the minority Alawite sect around which he has built the Syrian regime.

## Arab envoys in Israel seek coordination

By Ghalia Alul

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The six Arab diplomatic missions in Tel Aviv are seeking to explore ways to enhance cooperation and understanding among them as well as coordinate their positions within the Israeli diplomatic scene. Omar Rifai, the Jordanian envoy in Tel Aviv, said Tuesday.

In a telephone interview, Mr. Rifai told the Jordan Times that envoys from Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Mauritania, Oman and himself will today meet at the

Jordanian embassy in Tel Aviv to discuss issues of common interest. The meeting will be the first of future regular meetings the "Arab Group" are planning to hold, he said.

"It will be some kind of an Arab grouping, and we do not have a fixed agenda for the meeting Wednesday," he said.

"Since the number of the Arab diplomatic missions have increased in Israel, it is good to sit down and coordinate among ourselves," he added.

Asked if the victory of

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu in the May 29 elections had prompted the envoys to seek a common position Mr. Rifai said their decision had only coincided with Mr. Netanyahu's victory, noting that the group would create a common stand vis-a-vis the developments in the peace process.

Syria on Monday called on all Arab countries taking part in the Arab summit in Cairo in June 21-23 not to normalise ties with Israel saying that Mr. Netanyahu was adopting a programme of "war and expansion" and that the

Israeli leader was not ready to give any important concessions to Arabs.

It also criticised Arab states including Oman, Qatar, Morocco and Tunisia for rushing to normalise relations with Israel while it continued to occupy Arab lands.

Qatar has threatened to "revise" its moves towards ties with Israel if the Jewish state retracts its commitment to peace.

Mr. Rifai said the peace process had moved forward and the Arab group in Israel will unify efforts to "keep it moving."



## Israeli airline to begin Amman flights June 23

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The first Israeli commercial flight to Jordan will land at Queen Alia International Airport on June 23, launching direct flights between Tel Aviv and Amman by an Israeli airline, industry sources said Tuesday.

Jordan's Royal Wings, managed by the national carrier Royal Jordanian, launched Amman-Tel Aviv flights in March, nearly three months after Jordan and Israel signed a transport agreement, including an annex on civil aviation.

But the reciprocal Israeli flights were delayed after Israel launched a massive blitz against guerrillas in South Lebanon on April 11.

The transport agreement was part of a series of bilateral accords called for in the Oct. 26, 1994 peace treaty signed by the two countries.

Under the transport accord, huses of private companies started flying between Jordanian and Israeli cities on Sunday. Private cars are also

allowed cross-border travel.

Israel's Arkia, managed by national carrier El Al, delayed its scheduled April 27 launch of Amman flights because of what Israeli reports described as security reasons but what Jordanian officials said were "technical" problems.

The Israeli reports said the opening of Arkia flights to Amman were deferred because of fears of attacks in retaliation for the Jewish state's April 11-26 blitz against Hizbollah guerrillas in South Lebanon.

But Jordanian officials insisted "technical hitches" rather than security fears were behind the delay.

"The first Israeli commercial flight will land in Amman on June 23," said Five Continents Travel, the general sales agent for El Al and Arkia in Jordan.

"The first plane is expected to carry an Israeli delegation representing both the public and private sectors," said an official. "The delegation is being put together, but it is likely that it would include the Israeli transport minister, whoever that

might be," added the official, referring to the still unannounced cabinet line-up of premier-elect Benjamin Netanyahu.

Both Royal Wings, which operates out of the old airport at Marka, and Arkia, whose planes will land at and take off from Queen Alia International Airport, are using 50-seat jets for the 20-minute flights.

Both airlines operate five weekly flights, two of them in the morning and three in the evening. There are no flights on Fridays and Saturdays.

Overland travel between Amman and Tel Aviv, across the Sheikh Hussein Bridge in the north, takes several hours.

Jordan and Israel also maintain a crossing in the south near the ports of Aqaba and Eilat.

The King Hussein Bridge, is not being used for regular tourist traffic between Jordan and Israel because Amman considers the bridge as marking the Kingdom's borders with the West Bank, which remains under Israeli control.



**FIRST WOMAN JUDGE:** Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Tuesday meets Taghrid Hikmat, the first woman judge in Jordan, who called at Princess Basma's office on Tuesday. Her Royal Highness congratulated Mrs. Hikmat and wished her every success in her new assignment. Princess Basma said the appointment of Mrs. Hikmat "in this senior position is a gesture of appreciation to the Jordanian women who have proved their efficiency and capability to perform all duties assigned to them (Petra photo)

## Ankara apologises for roughing up journalists

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkish Interior Minister Utku Guney apologized Monday for the rough treatment of journalists by police during a demonstration held in Istanbul at the weekend.

About 10 journalists were manhandled as riot police broke up the protest in the European part of Istanbul, near the site of the U.N. city summit Habitat II, which has been surrounded by draconian security measures and squadrons of police.

Some 550 people were detained, including delegates to the U.N. conference.

"It is regrettable that the journalists suffered from treatment as a result of the legal recourse to force," Mr. Guney said in a communique.

"Measures taken to control crowds always carry a high level of risk for journalists," he added.

Referring to the demonstration, organized by Turkey's confederation of public sector unions and by families of Turks who have gone missing in detention, the minister added that the "organisation of such an action, which could damage the image of Turkey was not acceptable."

Mr. Guney said that 156 of those held on Saturday were members of illegal organisations, notably the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) and the Popular Liberation Revolutionary Front.

According to Mr. Guney, "once the demonstration was authorised, extreme left underground organisations could have exploited it as they had done on May 1."

He was referring to riots which resulted in three deaths and scores of wounded during May Day demonstrations in Istanbul.

On Sunday, delegates attending the U.N. city summit began a petition calling for immediate action against human rights violations, following the detention of hundreds of peaceful protesters.

Turkish media reported that some 550 people were arrested on Saturday, of whom 239 were released on Sunday.

On Monday, spokesmen for the Habitat II conference said the police use of force had been referred to "diplomatic channels."

## Court slur leads to clashes in Yemen

SANAA (AFP) — Several people were wounded Monday in clashes in eastern Yemen amid a bitter feud after a prosecutor cast a slur on the honour of local women during a rape trial brought against police, officials said.

Trouble first flared Thursday in Mukalla, 800 kilometres southeast of Sanaa, after a court hearing in which prosecutor Abdul Aziz Al-Zurani said women in the area were "without honour."

The hearing has been brought by a woman and her daughter who say they were arrested without charge two months ago and raped by police while held in jail. Mr. Zurani accuses the women of lying.

After the hearing, protesters set fire to Mr. Zurani's car and police had to open fire to disperse the crowd. Authorities said two were hurt,

but witnesses put the figure at six.

On Monday "armed troublemakers opened fire in different parts of the town, attacked police and tried to damage public property," a statement from the interior ministry said.

It added an inquiry had been opened and several of those arrested would face legal proceedings.

Local leaders said between three to five people were wounded when police fired to break up the crowd as they attacked the governor's headquarters where Interior Minister Hussein Arab was holding talks to investigate the events.

Witnesses said however, that about a dozen people were hurt when police fired automatic weapons and threw tear gas on the crowd of several hundred people.

## Libya — mobile phones, Gucci bags and subsidised macaroni

By Mariam Sami  
The Associated Press

TRIPOLI — Her blue maid's uniform torn at the sleeve, Jamila Abdul Hafiz pushes a cart full of cleansers along the hall of the five-star hotel and talks about her jealousy towards some Libyan women, she sees.

"I wish I could be like other girls," she says. "They are every day at the hairdressers and have many dresses."

She recalls admiring a simple Italian dress that cost 240 dinars (\$83). Buying it was out of the question, she says, her voice rising in frustration. Her monthly salary at the Al Mahari Hotel is just 114 dinars (\$40).

The 21-year-old woman is not alone. Many Libyans feel pangs of envy when they watch the "bizzness" — owners of private businesses — totting 3,000-dinar (about \$1,000) mobile phones and 980-dinar (about \$340) designer

leather bags. Resentment at showy wealth is new in Libya's traditional society, where family pride once counted more than money — and where Colonel Muammar Qadhafi promised all would be equal under his regime's brand of socialism.

But Col. Qadhafi's plans did not work out. The income gap is growing between average Libyans and those who have turned the system to their advantage by opening supermarkets, travel agencies and the restaurants that are starting to crop up in Tripoli.

"People are sad because they look at the goods they cannot afford," said Ms. Abdul Hafiz, the hotel maid.

Part of Libya's problem is the drop in world prices for its oil. In 1978, when Col. Qadhafi shut all private businesses as "non-productive parasites," oil was selling at near record highs.

Private businesses were replaced with "people's

souks," state-owned supermarkets — some the size of soccer fields — that sold everything from imported shampoos to washing machines to cars at subsidised prices.

All Libyans would be "partners, not wage-earners," Col. Qadhafi declared in "The Green Book," which outlined his social and political philosophy.

But after oil prices plunged in the early 1980s, Col. Qadhafi could not afford to keep the people's souks stocked. By the early '90s, he was forced to let merchants import goods on their own to alleviate shortages.

Merchants also prospered trading dollars in the illegal black market while officialdom looked the other way, because dollars were needed to pay for imported goods.

Today, the remnants of Col. Qadhafi's socialism and private business exist side by side, increasing the feelings of jealousy.

In government stores, Libyans line up for subsidised goods like cooking oil, sold for 40 piasters (14 cents) a can, compared to 65 cents in private shops. The average family of six can get a month's ration of flour, cooking oil, sugar, macaroni, tea and tomato paste for the equivalent of \$24.

Meanwhile, the rich shop in the Girgaresh area, where the main street is lined with brightly lit high-tech kitchen appliances, crystal vases, Mercedes cars and stuffed toys.

Girgaresh groceries are well-stocked with foreign foods. A small package of a Swiss cream cheese sells for \$1 — equal to seven cans of subsidised cooking oil.

The well-off send their children to private schools — once banned by Col. Qadhafi — and summer in Egypt, Tunisia and Europe. They live in villas along the Mediterranean coast topped with \$700 satellite dishes.

Average Libyans are caught in a bind. The value of the dinar is being eroded by inflation estimated at 7 per cent to 8 per cent a year, making imported goods a dream.

The official exchange rate remains \$3 to the dinar, but purchases of imported goods are at the black market rate of 33 cents for a dinar. At that rate, the average monthly salary of 250 dinars is \$3 — not much to spend on imported goods.

Ihah Abdullah, 15, complained that a pair of jeans now costs 65 dinars when five years ago it was 15 dinars. Amira Mobammad, a housewife, said one kilogramme of meat has risen to eight dinars from about five in the same period.

Most Libyans are unwilling to publicly blame Col. Qadhafi for the economic troubles.

Instead, they say Libya is being hurt by U.N. sanctions imposed in 1992 after Col. Qadhafi refused to surrender two Libyan men

sought in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people. The sanctions ban international air travel to Libya and the sale of some oil-drilling equipment.

Still, people complain about government proposals to raise taxes, and many families worry about their children's education since teachers do not show up for classes to protest not being paid in months.

In Tripoli, beggars are on the streets for the first time in years, and many women are said to be selling gold from their precious dowries to supplement husbands' shrinking incomes.

A businessman, who gave his name only as Essam and whose family owns two restaurants, conceded that life is turning worse for the average Libyan.

"For the rich there is everything," he said. "For the poor there is nothing."

## Palestinian VIPs refuse Israeli security checks

GAZA (R) — Israel on Monday prevented more than 20 Palestinian legislative council members, who refused to undergo security checks, from travelling from Gaza to Nablus in the West Bank, a council member said.

"The Israeli officers wanted to check our papers, our luggage and our persons. We refused and after about two hours of arguing they refused to let us pass as VIPs so we decided to go back to Gaza in protest," said Dr. Mussa Al Zaabout.

Israeli officials said contact had been made with Palestinian officials and the situation had been resolved. "They had no VIP passes, which we (Israel) issued together with the Palestini-

ans. In any case under the interim agreement we are entitled to have VIPs undergo security inspections," said Shlomo Dror, spokesman for Israel's coordinator of activities in the territories.

Mr. Dror said they expected the legislators to return soon to the checkpoint where they would undergo security checks.

The legislators were on their way to Nablus for talks ahead of a council meeting on Wednesday. Last week Israel eased a closure it imposed on the Gaza Strip and West Bank following suicide bombings that killed 59 people in Israel in February and March.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Opposition urges Bashir to stand down

CAIRO (AFP) — The political opposition in Sudan took the unprecedented step Monday of formally asking President Omar Al Bashir to relinquish power. Sudanese dissidents here said. According to members of the Sudanese opposition Umma Party in Cairo, the Democratic National Alliance — a coalition of opposition groups — delivered a message to the presidency in Khartoum Monday calling on the president to stand down. Witnesses in Khartoum, contacted from Cairo, confirmed that an opposition delegation had been received at the presidential palace but were unable to provide more information. "In these difficult circumstances and to avert sedition which could endanger the very existence of Sudan and to avoid any settlement imposed by foreigners, the incumbent regime must relinquish power immediately and leave it to the people to form a national interim government," according to a copy of the message given to AFP. All Sudanese political parties were banned after Lieutenant-General Bashir seized power in a coup in June 1989 and established an military-backed Islamic regime.

### Floods kill five in northern Morocco

RABAT (R) — Five people were killed, two injured and more than 40 houses destroyed by flooding and torrential rains in Morocco's northern provinces during the last 48 hours, the official MAP news agency said on Monday. The five died in the provinces of Khourigba and Khenifra, the agency said. Houses collapsed in the mountainous province of Midelt and two hotels in the tourist town of Sefrou were flooded. Floods killed nearly 200 people in Morocco in August and September last year.

### Iran holds employees of clergy-led firm

TEHRAN (R) — Iranian police have arrested nine employees of a firm of property developers led by a theology student for allegedly embezzling customers' savings, a newspaper said on Monday. Kayhan newspaper quoted Gholamhossein Mohseni, prosecutor of a special clergy court, as saying the court ordered the arrest of the nine employees of Yavar-e Momenin (helper of the faithful) company for receiving deposits from customers without having the financial means to produce apartments as promised. Mr. Gholamreza Foroughi, a 23-year-old Shiite Islamic theology student who was the firm's general manager, was among those held. Mr. Mohseni said. Officials had earlier asked Foroughi to end his activities, saying they "might cause public dispute for the clergy," but he had continued after changing the company's name. Mr. Mohseni said. Kayhan said the firm had attracted many customers with promises to sell apartments for as little as 17 million rials (\$5,700), a fraction of the market price in Tehran.

### Iran seeks income from donkey exports

TEHRAN (R) — Iran, apparently seeking to reverse a fall in non-oil exports, has authorised the export of 30,000 donkeys. The daily Kayhan said on Monday the commerce ministry had issued a directive allowing the export of up to 30,000 donkeys. Iran's non-oil exports plunged by some 25 per cent to about \$3.2 billion in the year that ended on March 19 due to tough foreign exchange regulations adopted by the government to protect the value of the rial currency.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

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### PROGRAMME TWO

15:00 The Filmstones  
15:30 Dinosaurs  
15:45 The New Three Stooges  
16:00 Bill Nye the Science Guy  
16:30 Kelly  
17:00 News Flash  
17:02 Children's Programme — Les Polices  
17:30 Serie — Secret De Famille  
18:00 Le Journal  
18:15 Magazine — Sports Et Musique  
19:30 News Headlines  
19:45 Comedy — Evening Shade  
20:00 People Count — "No Place Like Home"  
20:25 Drama — Chance/EP.1  
21:10 Drama — Hunter  
22:00 News in English  
22:25 Daily Summary — Japan Week  
22:35 The Bold and the Beautiful  
22:25 Airwolf

### PRAYER TIMES

05:50 Fajr  
05:55 Sunrise  
12:05 Dhuha  
16:16 Asr  
19:46 Maghreb  
21:20 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church

Swellish, Tel. 810740

Assumption of God Church, Tel. 637785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624390

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terranova Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 652826

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 625256

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 845457

The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

English-speaking Latin Catholics Parish Tel. 614190

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot with temperatures above average and winds easterly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. Amman 21/25

Aqaba 23 / 39  
Deserts 20 / 37  
Jordan Valley 24 / 40

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 35 Aqaba 38, Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Rajjar Bader 832642  
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 830432  
Dr. Wafiq Qaddoumi 893542  
Dr. Yahiya Abdul Rahim 836072  
Firas pharmacy 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy 778336  
Al Asena pharmacy 671025  
Nairoukh pharmacy 626372  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Smeisani pharmacy 637680  
Nairoukh pharmacy 626372  
Najib pharmacy 847632

**IRBID:**  
Dr. Ahmad Qanu 281484  
Al Quds pharmacy (—)

**ZARQA:**  
Dr. Walid Halaseh 982799  
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade 617011  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 834402  
Traffic Police 896390  
Public Security Department 630321  
Hotel Complaints 605800  
Price Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467  
Amman Municipality 010230  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101  
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615  
Electric Power Company 636381  
RJ Flight Information 08-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity, J. Aun 644281/6  
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Mallat, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani 607071  
Shmeisani Hospital 669131  
University Hospital 845845  
Al-Musabir Hospital 667227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali 661217/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajirah 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26  
Army, Shmeisani 89161/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 60240/50  
Amal Hospital 674135  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 865199

**ZARQA:**  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732  
Al Hikmah Modern Hospital (09)989990  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery 865199  
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

**FOR THE TRAVELLER**  
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
This information is supplied by

Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200. S, where it should always be verified. Information on other flights can be supplied on phone (06) 52700.

**ARRIVALS**  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
08:00 Damascus (RJ)  
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
09:55 Larnaca (RJ)  
10:10 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
15:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
17:30 Toronto, Montreal (RJ)  
18:15 Istanbul (RJ)  
19:10 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)  
19:15 London, Berlin (RJ)  
19:15 Rome (RJ)  
20:00 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
00:30 Paris, Brussels (RJ)  
01:10 Beirut (RJ)  
04:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

**Other Flights**  
13:35 Cairo (MS)  
12:00 Sanaa (YV)  
12:15 Jeddah (SV)  
13:40 Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK)  
13:15 Sharjah (AH)  
13:40 Abu Dhabi (GP)  
14:30 Tunis (TU)  
16:20 Algiers (AH)  
19:00 Dubai (EK)

20:40 London, Beirut (BA)  
21:10 Beirut (ME)  
22:35 Larnaca (CY)  
23:20 Amsterdam (KL)  
23:30 Athens (OA)

**Royal Wings (RW) Flights**  
19:45 Tel Aviv (OIA) (RW)

**DEPARTURES**  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
11:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
11:40 Berlin, London (RJ)  
12:00 Rome (RJ)  
12:10 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
12:45 Istanbul (RJ)  
18:20 Colombo (RJ)  
19:45 Beirut (RJ)  
20:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)  
21:10 Cairo (RJ)  
21:20 New Delhi (RJ)  
21:30 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
22:15 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
23:45 Sanaa (RJ)  
01:30 Al Ain (add) (RJ)

**Royal Wings (RW) Flights**  
19:45 Tel Aviv (OIA) (RW)

**MARKET PRICES**  
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apricot 880 / 600  
Apple 700 / 500  
Banana 600/600  
Banana (Mukammur) 520/520  
Banana (imported) 750/550  
Cabbage 80 / 50  
Carrot 170/100  
Cauliflower 180/130  
Cucumber (large) 100/70  
Cucumber (small) 170 / 100  
Eggplant 220 / 150  
Garlic 600/400  
Lemon 630/450  
Marrow (large) 160 / 100  
Marrow (small) 250 / 160  
Mushrooms 170/110  
Onion (dry) 120 / 80  
Okra 620/400  
Orange 1300 / 800  
Peach 370/200  
Pepper (hot) 360 / 260  
Pepper (sweet) 440/300  
Potato 270/170  
String Bean 500 / 360  
Tomato 140/80  
Watermelon 110 / 70







## Japan eyes helping U.S. more in Asian crises, report says

TOKYO (R) — Japan is mulling expanding the definition of threats to its security to include contingencies such as a Korean conflict to enable greater cooperation with the United States, a Japanese newspaper reported Tuesday.

The move, part of efforts to flesh out a Japan-U.S. agreement in April to beef up bilateral security cooperation, would avoid violating the Japanese constitution, which Tokyo interprets as forbidding collective defence.

Under the new security approach, a North Korean attack on South Korea or similar military emergency on the Korean peninsula would be defined as a "quasi-crisis" affecting Japan's security, the daily Yomiuri Shinbun said.

"Views are growing within the ruling coalition government that Japan should take the position of regarding any military clash between Seoul and Pyongyang as making Japan subject to eventual military attacks," the paper quoted unnamed government officials as saying.

The Defence Agency confirmed it was involved in a debate, but said the Yomiuri report did not reflect its official stance.

The new proposal comes as security planners ponder North Korean defectors' warnings that it is ready to attack South Korea and international experts' accounts that the borderline Communist state faces famine and economic ruin.

On Tuesday Japan said it would donate \$6 million to North Korea in response to a U.N. appeal to help stave off severe food shortages, adding to pledges by the United States and South Korea to give \$6 million and \$3 million, respectively.

A Korean showdown would subject Japan to security threats, such as a North Korean missile attack on U.S. military bases in Japan, making it permissible for Tokyo to provide logistical and other support to U.S. forces, the newspaper said.

The extent of Japanese support has yet to be established, but officials suggest Japan would supply fuel, food and help with mine-sweeping and repair of U.S. ships and planes.

Japan's 1995 defence white paper identified North Korea as its biggest concern, citing Pyongyang's long-range missiles. In May 1993, North Korea fired its Rodong-1 long-range ballistic missile into seas just off the coast of Japan.

Linking regional conflicts near Japan directly to Japanese security would give the Self Defence Forces (SDF), Japan's military, scope to operate with U.S. forces without violating the constitution, which renounces war but permits self defence.

The emotive debate over the constitution, imposed on Japan by the U.S. occupation forces in 1947, was rekindled by the April agreement between

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton to enhance bilateral security ties.

Japanese pacifists, spearheaded by the Social Democratic Party, have steadfastly opposed the 1960 Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and maintained that the SDF was unconstitutional.

The conservative Liberal Democratic Party, which ruled Japan from 1955 to 1993 and dominates the three-party coalition that took office in 1994, argues that international law allows Tokyo the sovereign right of self-defence.

Although the Social Democrats dropped their outright opposition to the SDF and U.S.-Japan security ties when they joined the LDP in the coalition two years ago, the party remains wary of expanding bilateral security cooperation.

The defence planners' new scheme would attempt to assuage SDP concerns by dividing security threats into those meriting close Japan-U.S. cooperation because they threatened to involve Japan directly in a crisis and those with no direct impact on Japanese security, the Yomiuri said.

A collapse of North Korea's Stalinist government, a China-Taiwan conflict or a military clash over South China Sea territorial disputes were among hypothetical regional security problems deemed not to pose a threat to Japan, the paper said.

## Ending career in Congress, Dole stakes all on White House bid

WASHINGTON (AFP)

— After weathering 35 years of political battles and nine U.S. presidents, Senate leader Bob Dole bids an emotional farewell to Congress Tuesday in an all-or-nothing gamble to win his third and last presidential campaign.

"It's the White House or home," has been Sen. Dole's favourite campaign pitch since he stunned Washington last month with an announcement that he would retire to concentrate on the Republicans' drive to oust President Bill Clinton.

Sen. Dole had planned to campaign from the Senate floor, but ties to the increasingly unpopular Republican majority and Mr. Clinton's huge lead in the polls convinced Sen. Dole he needed a dramatic gesture to let voters know he was serious about wanting to be president.

Sen. Dole, 72, would be the oldest chief executive to take office for the first time if he wins in November. But he dies his hair and sports a tan year-round in an effort to keep the "age factor" from dooming his chances against the baby-boomer Clinton.

He has, however, begun to talk about the World War II battle wound that crippled his right arm, seeking to warm up on the campaign trail where aides had warned him he seemed ill-at-ease.

Though Mr. Clinton enjoys a 15-20 point lead in the polls, Sen. Dole is looking stronger now that he has left behind his humiliating early defeats in the state races for the August nomination.

It appears the moderate conservative leader has successfully averted a party split over the abortion issue which threatened to divert attention at the Republican convention as it did four years ago, a big factor in George Bush's defeat.

"It's been resolved," Sen. Dole said in a CNN interview Monday after adding a "declaration of tolerance" to the party's official un-bending anti-abortion stand in a gesture to the growing number of pro-choice members.

Sen. Dole also said the two biggest political spoilers, renegade Republican Pat Buchanan and independent Ross Perot, were less of a threat as the former had been mollified by



Senator Bob Dole, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, poses outside his Senate office for photographers. Tuesday was Sen. Dole's last day in the Senate as he prepares to run full-time for the presidency (Reuters photo)

the abortion declaration and the latter is likely to come around once he discovers Sen. Dole backs most of his causes.

In the current tax-cut bidding war, Sen. Dole has already proposed a \$500 credit for charity donations to help the poor and is expected to unveil a broader plan at the convention.

Party members have been urging a reluctant Sen. Dole to sideline his career-long commitment to balancing the budget in favour of tax cuts to woo voters and he seems to be hitting. "I think you can balance the budget and have tax cuts," Sen. Dole said in the CNN interview, adding that he will begin planning his economic package Tuesday after his farewell floor speech.

Sen. Dole is playing the traditional Republican hawk to Mr. Clinton's Democratic dove, pushing for a national ballistic defence system which Mr. Clinton argues is costly and unnecessary and calling for a harder line with Communists in North Korea, China and Cuba.

He also says he wants to move the U.S. embassy

from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem despite vehement Arab opposition, favours rapid NATO expansion over Mos-cow's objections and an end to U.S. troops under U.N. command against Europe's protests.

The recent convictions of three of Mr. Clinton's Whitewater partners gave Sen. Dole more ammunition on the "character issue" he says will be a big part of his campaign strategy.

"I've never seen an administration make so many — quote — innocent mistakes," he said Monday, referring to the White House apology for requesting FBI files on prominent Republicans.

Sen. Dole lost two presidential races in 1980 and 1988 as well as a vice presidential in 1972 and critics charge his only message on the campaign trail is "it's my turn."

Indeed, the Kansas senator's stump speeches are brief and tend to include cryptic phrases such as "every country needs a president."

And Monday found him looking ahead in his sardonic fashion. "Once I'm gone, I'm gone and I'll be Bob Dole — citizen Dole, whatever," he said.

## Krahn fighters agree to disarm in Monrovia

MONROVIA (R) — Ethnic Krahn fighters agreed Tuesday to disarm and leave an army barracks at the centre of recent fighting in Liberia's six-year-old civil war, a statement by the Krahn's ULIMO-J militia said.

Witnesses said trucks of the ECOMOG African peacekeeping force in Liberia had entered the Barclay Training Centre (BTC) Barracks to take the Krahn to their bases in the interior.

"We, the members of the Executive Council, the military high command, general supporters and sympathisers of ULIMO-J, are very pleased to comply with the request of ECOWAS (regional bloc) leaders, to band over our arms today to ECOMOG and to eventually withdraw our forces from the BTC military barracks," said the statement signed by acting militia leader Madison Wion.

It said ULIMO-J fighters would move to their bases in Kakata, Todoe and Bong Mines after the U.N. Observer Mission (UNOMIL) had verified that rival forces had left the towns.

Another ULIMO-J official told Reuters that 1,000 Krahn had already banded their weapons to ECOMOG and started leaving the barracks. But he said they would remain in Monrovia for the time being as civilians.

"If and when ECOMOG clears our bases we will return there as civilians," said field commander General Bailey Lincoln.

The disarmament came after intense mediation by Ghanaian envoys, ECOMOG and U.N. commanders following orders from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) under which the Krahn's militia rivals withdrew from the city last week.

The Nigerian-led ECOMOG at the same time announced that it had completed the deployment of its troops throughout Monrovia.

Fighting and widespread looting erupted in the capital on April 6 over attempts by Liberia's temporary government to arrest ULIMO-J leader Roosevelt Johnson on murder charges.

A retired U.S. general, Robert Yerkes, played a key role in convincing the Krahn to leave.



Supporters of former opposition leader Sheikh Hasina's Awami League party smile as they wear boat-shaped paper caps to resemble the party's election logo in a campaign march through Dhaka. Voting in the nation's general election is scheduled for Wednesday (Reuters photo)

## Bangladesh is ready for polls today under tight security

DHAKA (R) — Security forces and foreign election monitors deployed across Bangladesh Tuesday, a day before parliamentary polls whose success is seen as vital if this impoverished country's fortunes are to improve.

Bangladeshis believe much of their future depends on Wednesday's elections, the second in four months.

Bangladesh, born out of a war in 1971, has a history of military rule, natural disasters and political chaos that have dogged efforts to improve life for the country's 115 million, mostly Muslim, people.

Troops stationed in all 64 administrative districts and big cities were on standby to help some 400,000 police and paramilitary soldiers guarding polling stations.

Motor vehicles, except those used by journalists and the more than 150 Western and Asian observers, have been banned during the voting.

"We want make the final hours (ahead of the polls) free from visible threats," a police officer said.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) of former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia won elections held in February by default as a result of an opposition boycott.

Under relentless pressure, Mrs. Khaleda resigned on March 30 only two weeks after she had started her second term in office, and called for fresh elections under a non-party interim authority.

More than 80 political parties are contesting the new polls supervised by a caretaker government headed by retired Chief Justice Habibur Rahman.

Fears of violence continued despite Tuesday's relative lull.

Mrs. Khaleda said Monday night she suspected that polling might not be free and fair in all 300 constituencies.

"It's too early to say if the elections will be rigged. But I suppose polling in all the centres may not be free and fair," she told reporters.

Arch-rival Sheikh Hasina of the Awami League accused the BNP of conspiring to tamper with the poll results.

"Apprehension is widespread today that the President (Abdur Rahman Biswas), acting for the BNP, will manipulate the defence forces to tilt the election results in favour of his party," Mrs. Hasina told reporters Monday.

The president's office denounced the allegations as "unfortunate, false and irresponsible."

Election Commission sources said they expected a close contest between the BNP and the Awami League, which has been out of power since 1975.

A third group, the Jatiya (National) Party, is being led from prison by former ruler General Hossain Mohammad Ershad, who was jailed by Mrs. Khaleda on bribery charges.

Gen. Ershad's biggest asset — his charisma — has not been used as he has failed to secure his release or get permission to broadcast from jail.

However, his party could hold the balance of power in a hung parliament.

Mrs. Hasina hopes Wednesday's elections in Bangladesh will finally carry her to power, 20 years after the assassination of her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the country's first president.

The Awami League chief does not hide her belief that her arch-rival, former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, has tried to load the dice against her in the elections.

She cites the dramatic firing last month of the army chief by President Biswas as evidence of BNP machinations.

"The BNP is engaged in a conspiracy to jeopardise democracy, destroy the sovereignty and independence, and foil the ensuing election," she thundered at a recent campaign rally.

A trim, bespectacled woman aged 48, Mrs. Hasina mounted a relentless two-year campaign of strikes, boycotts and protests until Mrs. Khaleda finally bowed to opposition demands that she hand over to a neutral caretaker government to supervise elections.

The political turmoil of the last two years cost about 130 lives and threatened this disaster-prone South Asian country's efforts to liberalise and modernise its fragile economy.

Hasina shares responsibility for the damage Bangladesh has inflicted on itself, but diplomats say she has consciously moderated her image since Mrs. Khaleda quit power on March 30.

"Hasina has transformed herself," one Western diplomat said. "She is listening to advice and talking more positively."

The Awami League leader has had most of her family slain in a military coup, spent months in detention and lived abroad for six years in self-imposed exile.

She joined a campaign with Mrs. Khaleda to topple military ruler Gen. Ershad in 1990 and then fought the 1991 parliamentary election but lost to Mrs. Khaleda's BNP.

Since then Mrs. Hasina has kept up a dogged confrontation with Mrs. Khaleda. Arguing that no fair elections could take place under a BNP government, the Awami League and other opposition parties boycotted the last elections on Feb. 15.

Ideologically there is no difference between the BNP and Awami League, which has abandoned the socialist, nationalising policies it espoused under Sheikh Mujib in the 1970s.

Both parties now advocate economic liberalisation and have moved away from their secular roots to court the Islamic vote.

Mrs. Hasina has tried to convince influential international donors an Awami League government would pursue reform policies at least as vigorously as the BNP has done in recent years.

## Teenage sailor on track for record

PERTH, Australia (AFP)

— Australian teenage sailor David Dicks remains on track to become the youngest person to circumnavigate the world solo non-stop. Dicks, 17, from Perth, is now not far from Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, as he sails up the south American coast in the South Atlantic, his mother Patricia Dicks said here Tuesday.

She said she had had direct radio contact with him for the first time for several weeks — and he remained in great spirits.

"The big thrill of his life now is that he can take off a few clothes as the weather warms up as he heads north," she said. "He can go without a jumper and all that cold weather gear for the first time in many weeks."

"He told me: 'It's very different from when I was rounding the Horn (Cape Horn) three weeks ago and making snowballs on the deck.'"

Temperatures have been reaching 20 degrees Celsius (68 Fahrenheit) and are rising every day, she said. Dicks is now heading towards Bermuda in the North Atlantic, the half-way point in his epic voyage in his 10-metre (33-foot) sloop, Seafight.

He aims to be there in about six weeks. Dicks left Fremantle, Western Australia, on Feb. 25, sailing through the Great Australian Bight to New Zealand. From there he headed east in the South Pacific.

He rounded the notorious Cape Horn, at the extreme southern tip of South America, with a damaged mast and in mountainous seas before making repairs in the waters off the Falkland Islands.

Alan Jackson wins top country music award

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (R) — Alan Jackson won the top Entertainer of the Year award Monday at the annual TNN/Music City News Country Awards show.

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## Search halted at ValuJet crash site in Florida Everglades

MIAMI (R) — Recovery teams Monday halted the search for the wreckage of ValuJet Flight 592 one month after it nosedived into the Everglades, and state officials said they planned to turn the site into a permanent memorial to the crash victims.

Officials said three-quarters of the DC-9 had been pulled from the swamp and one-third of the 110 people aboard had been identified and work would continue on identifying other victims from several pounds of human tissue still to be analysed.

They called it the longest and costliest air crash recovery ever, but declined to name figures.

"It is our belief that we have recovered all of the aircraft parts that can reasonably be expected to be salvaged, given the physical conditions that all of the investigators have been

subjected to," Jim Hall, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), told a news conference.

Almost all of the wreckage has been found in small pieces, which have been carted from the remote crash site to a hangar at a nearby commuter airport, where NTSB investigators have been painstakingly reconstructing the doomed aircraft.

NTSB Vice Chairman Robert Francis said there had been no evidence found of fire in electrical components, which had been one of two focal points for investigators trying to determine the cause of the crash.

Investigators were therefore shifting their focus to the aircraft's cargo hold, where "considerable evidence of fire" was found, he said. The DC-9 was carrying more than 100 oxygen-generating canisters, which

are considered hazardous materials and may have exploded in connection with a fire on board the aircraft.

The crash site in the Everglades National Park will be closed to the public for a few weeks and turned into a permanent memorial site, said Lt. Col. Woody Darden of the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission.

The NTSB said a public hearing on the crash would be held this autumn in Miami and a final report on the cause would not be released at least until early 1997.

ValuJet President Lewis Jordan said the airline had reduced the number of contractors doing heavy maintenance on its planes from six or more to four in response to FAA concerns.

## Egypt workers on odorous quest for ring

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian sanitary workers spent a fruitless hour sifting through the toilet tank of an Egyptian Airbus for a diamond ring, airport sources said. They said an Australian passenger aboard the Sydney-Cairo flight told the pilot that she had dropped the ring into the toilet and that it was worth \$75,000. After touchdown the sanitary workers took the tank to a patch of desert near the airport to look for the ring, but they could not find it.







## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Founded 1977.

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### Safety precautions must be upheld

**AS IF** it is not bad enough that we keep digging into streets and roads, including recently paved ones, all such excavations go on with the least safety standards. Cars and pedestrians continue to fall victim to holes in streets and roads because municipalities, even in the capital city, do not bother to meet the most basic safety rules such as putting up clear warning signs.

In the first place, we would like to ask the question why our thoroughfares continue to look like battlefields no matter how new or old they are. We do not need to be economists or well-versed in cost effectiveness to voice our utter alarm at the constant damage being caused to our streets and roads. For a relatively poor country, we seem to spend huge amounts of money on paving streets only to have them dug out again in no time.

If we can afford duplication of efforts and the paving and repaving expenditures, should we not at least make this costly operation a bit safer as all nations do? Amman Municipality is called upon to lead the way in making digging in streets safer for vehicles and people alike. Or should we wait till a very important person falls into a freshly-dug road before we start to act. Holes in streets do not discriminate between cars, all of us on the road are susceptible to fall victim to them unless our concerned officials bother to protect us from them.

Maybe people should start thinking about going to court everytime their lives or property are put in danger by municipal negligence on our streets. If municipalities are sued and sued heavily everytime a car or person suffers damage because of negligence by the municipalities to warn of work being done on the street, then our concurred officials may start to think afresh about protecting people from their pitfalls. There are international standards on this subject that Jordan must start to apply in order to protect human life.

Meanwhile, we demand higher safety standards on our streets to ensure better protection for our children and ourselves.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT IS thanks to the decision of the Israeli electorate to choose Netanyahu as prime minister that the Arabs have decided to hold a summit meeting, according to Fahd Al Fakel, a writer for the Al Ra'i daily. For six long years the Arabs have been trying to hold this summit in order to discuss ways to end their differences and join their efforts to help regain the usurped Arab rights in Palestine and other parts of the Arab World, although such a summit was badly needed in order to help the Arab states transcend the consequences of the Gulf war, said the writer. However, the countries that called for the summit decided to exclude Iraq and Sudan as if these two Arab countries were no more part of this Arab World and therefore one should point out that the summit must not be held under the umbrella of the Arab League which has no right to keep any member state outside any collective Arab action, he continued. The writer also said that the Damascus declaration, which announced the call for the Arab summit, avoided mention in the Palestine authority and therefore this means that the coming Arab summit will be held only to support Syria's position vis-à-vis the negotiations with Israel as if the Golan Heights and not Palestine were the central issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The writer expressed pessimism over the coming meeting saying that it will be held under the influence of the U.S. and Israel's new leader Benjamin Netanyahu.

TAHER AL Adwan, a writer for Al Dustour, praised the courageous resistance of the Hizbollah group in Lebanon, saying that their struggle is bound to bring about an end to Israel's occupation of the southern parts of Lebanon. The resistance activities represent an exemplary reply to Israel's decision to elect Netanyahu to rule as prime minister and it is a reply which will dwarf the coming Arab summit as it has dwarfed the Sharm Al Sheikh summit and rendered it meaningless, said the writer.

### Washington Watch

## Dole's resignation — revamping the image of a presidency seeker

By Dr. James Zogby

REPUBLICAN BOB Dole's decision to resign from the U.S. Senate in order to campaign full-time for the presidency has brought a new intensity to the race for the White House.

Freed from the daily business of Washington law making, Dole has finally emerged as a formidable candidate.

His resignation speech was a classic work of political drama. Although he had reached the decision to leave the Senate weeks before, it remained a closely-guarded secret. As a result, the drama and impact of the announcement was powerful. Both the press and the public were caught by surprise. And the significance of the moment was lost on no one: here was Senator Robert Dole, a man who had been in the Congress for over half his life, leaving the institution he called his home.

Both the surprise factor and the risk involved (if Dole loses the presidency, he will no longer have a position in government), contributed to the drama of the resignation. So, too, did the short but emotional speech he delivered.

The speech had been masterfully crafted by an award-winning novelist and Dole, not known for his speaking ability, delivered it flawlessly. Rehearsals and the assistance of a teleprompter gave Dole the ability to present a new image to the American people.

In part, presenting a new image was what the resignation was all about — the reshaping of Bob Dole. Recognising that his stiffness,

lack of eloquence and his Washington insider status cast a shadow over the Dole campaign, the resignation drama sought to portray him as personable, thoughtful and emotional, and "just a man" willing to take the risk of giving up the trappings of power in order to win the presidency.

Some may be critical of the gimmickry of contemporary politics, but in a modern age whose images and symbols create realities, such gimmicks have become essential to communication.

In the weeks that followed the resignation, Dole intensified his campaigning, crisscrossing the country. Renewed by his changed status, Dole drew tremendous press attention. His speeches, now being written by two former speech writers for Ronald Reagan, were focused and message-oriented speeches. And his events have become well-planned for photo opportunities and television coverage.

A Dole campaign strategy is also emerging. The states and constituencies he is visiting and the issues he is now addressing make clear the direction of the Dole-for-president campaign.

Key midwestern states and ethnic groups whose votes will be critical in November are special targets of the reenergised Dole campaign. A speech on NATO expansion to Polish Americans and an anti-abortion address to a convention of Catholic journalists are examples of this strategy.

The Dole message is being crafted to capture media attention and define both the candi-

dacy of Bob Dole and his differences with President Bill Clinton.

Although it is still early in the campaign, some patterns are already emerging in this Dole-Clinton contest.

This campaign will be mean. An underlying theme in every Dole message speech is an attack on Bill Clinton's character. Republicans have clearly determined that they must play the character card. It is a risky business to attack the character of a president — but Dole has decided to do it. In one recent speech he declared that Clinton "cannot be trusted."

And in another speech, Dole charged that Clinton had "inflated (his) claims about crime-fighting, broken promises on taxes and welfare, stolen GOP ideas on welfare and adoption — and, for the first time, the Whitehouse convictions — were evidence that the American people should not trust the president."

Every time Bill Clinton says one thing and does another... he puts his credibility on the line.

It is also clear that Democrats will fight back. Having learned from Michael Dukakis' defeat in 1988, the Democrats are resolved not to allow any attacks to go unanswered.

And so the White House has established a rapid response team and trouble-shooting squads. No sooner has Dole given his speech than White House aides are on the telephone with reporters covering the Dole event. They have developed the capability to assemble facts quickly to

about the Dole charges as well as bring charges of their own.

The result has been to deny Dole the ability to capture unfettered news coverage of his speeches. For example, on the day Dole announced his support for an advanced missile system and argued that Bill Clinton's defence policy left the U.S. vulnerable to missile attacks, the Clinton staff immediately released a Republican study showing that Dole's proposal would cost billions of dollars and break the balanced budget. When Dole condemned Clinton for not being tough enough on crime and presented an alternative anti-crime programme, the Clinton staff immediately responded by showing that Dole had voted against that very proposal when the president had presented it.

What is at stake as the candidates charge and counter-charge is their ability to define themselves as centrist candidates who speak for the values of the majority of America.

In the famous 1964 Johnson-Goldwater presidential race, Johnson succeeded in painting Goldwater into an extremist conservative corner. The reverse was true in the 1984 Reagan-Mondale and the 1988 Bush-Dukakis races. In which the Republicans were successful in defining their Democratic opponents as "ultra-liberals."

Clinton has attempted to avoid this problem by co-opting several traditionally Republican themes, including welfare reform, strong national defence, a tough line against crime and downsizing government. By claiming the

political centre on these and other issues, Clinton is seeking to force Dole to attack him from the right and thereby appear to be the one on the extreme.

For his part, Dole is challenging Clinton's claim to be a centrist by calling into question the president's veracity and by focusing on what he calls Clinton's liberal policies.

Dole's dramatic resignation from the Senate, his revitalised campaign and the recent conviction of some of the president's former business associates in the now infamous but still little understood Whitewater fiasco have earned the Republican candidate strong support from his party and good press coverage. But all of this combined has not yet added up to any change in the polls or in public acceptance of Dole's campaign.

The president still holds a strong lead in the polls, although that lead should begin to narrow as Dole's press coverage reenergises Republican support nationwide.

For his part, Clinton has maintained his campaign strategy, and it has continued to be effective. The Whitewater controversy still hangs like a dark cloud over Washington, but it has not yet rained on the president. And while Dole has left the Senate and Washington in search of sunlight, he appears not to have found it yet. Polls out this week still show Clinton with a commanding 20 point lead and with favourable ratings much higher than his Republican challenger.

That is the picture now, but there are still five months until November.

## Tolerant tones

By Ali Kassay

One of the most lamentable developments in the West, during the eighties and nineties, is the emergence and spread of Islamophobia, which often results in racist attitudes and behaviour towards Arabs. The existence of this phenomenon is beyond doubt, though the scale of its spread and its root causes are open to discussion, and they merit more attention than they receive. For Muslims and Arabs, it is everyone's duty, at the individual and national levels, to respond most vehemently to this racist behaviour.

While we are at it, though, it may not be such a terrible idea to take a closer look at our own attitudes and behaviour on the same question. Perish the thought that yours humbly should suggest that any behaviour by an Arab or a Muslim may lend itself to the accusation of racism: the objective of the exercise is strictly to categorically refute the perfidious imperialist / reactionary / bourgeois / capitalist (or is that respectable nowadays?) claims that our protestations are tarnished by hypocrisy or double standards.

For instance, it is completely false that we assume Western women to be creatures of loose morality, who are there for our men to abuse freely in word and deed. The truth of the matter is that we view all women in this light, regardless of their origin, ethnicity or colour.

As for Western women, constantly whining about our men's unsolicited advances, are they not better off in our midst, where they have their backs universally pinched, than back home where one man in every ten thousand may turn out to be a psychopathic rapist or murderer? Of course, we do not treat them with the respect reserved to our own family, nor with the obsequiousness reserved for the women of those more rich and influential than ourselves, but then again, they are not in either category, are they?

And then there is another category which attracts undue fuss: that of domestic workers, mainly of Asian origin. So what if many Jordanian families dress their domestic staff in rags and work them like slaves in the galleys? After all, this is what they came for, is it not?

The fuss is not really about this. There seem to be institutions that these women are often abused sexually by their employers, which is most unjust. After all, they like it, really, don't they? Besides, an Asian female when she is the focus of attention of her master, who is further honoured by belonging to the noble Arab race, has every reason to feel herself honoured not abused.

Moreover, they are not the only expatriate workers who have been attracted by our open, tolerant and hospitable society. There are thousands upon thousands of Arab expatriate workers living in our midst, who clearly are our kith and kin. We all belong to the one glorious nation. We are inextricably bound to one another by the one language, history, cultural patrimony, destiny and the same glorious aspirations that bear no compromise. Yet, do we show any favouritism towards them?

The answer is a resounding no. The Jordanian conscience can rest clear. In our society, everyone treats everyone else, who is not tied to him by bonds of blood, matrimony or tribal origin, in the same shoddy manner. The question of racism has no place in our midst.

## Modernity vs. tradition — can the leopard change its spots?

By G. H. Jansen

THE POLITICAL turmoil afflicting Turkey for many months now, which has deprived the country of an effective governing majority, can be traced back directly to the misbegotten attempt by Turkey's national hero, Kemal Ataturk, to remake the character and personality of the Turkish people. This endeavour to transform the Turks into modern, secular Europeans has, however, been resisted for 70 years and gives rise to the question: Can the leopard change its spots?

The Turkish people, originally nomadic tribes which migrated from Central Asia to the Anatolian plateau and settled down over the years as agriculturalists, is strongly and devoutly Muslim, both Sunni and Shiite. At the end of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, ordinary Turks stubbornly defended the slowly decaying Ottoman Empire which Western European powers had designated as the "Sick man of Europe." At that time Turkey, rightly or wrongly, became a byword for inefficiency, lethargy, laissez faire and corruption.

The younger generation of Turkish army officers, among them Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, was revolted by the degradation of the Turkish society, a formerly highly developed and sophisticated society which at one time had as one of its outstanding achievements the cultivation and sophistication of the tulip.

So when Ataturk came to power, his objective was to sweep aside the Ottoman society and replace it with a vigorous, "modern" and Europeanised society closely modelled on those of the very countries which had, eventually, brought about the defeat and dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.

Ataturk thought the main cause of Turkey's downfall was Islam, presumably because, in his view, it seemed to foster an attitude of fatalistic resignation towards the challenges and complexities of modern life. Accordingly, when Islam, the "Church" of the empire, was disestablished at the same time the Ottoman Caliphate was overthrown and abolished, the "Kemalist revolution" attempted to get rid of Islam, root and branch, in all its manifestations. But the mass of the Turkish peasantry rejected the anti-Islamic ele-

ments in Kemalism and the religion simply went underground.

In response, the Turkish army set itself up as the defender of the secular ideal and carried out coups d'état whenever it thought Islam was reemerging on the Turkish political scene. The last such coup was staged in September 1980.

But the army remained in barracks when Islamist elements in Turkish politics, grouped in what was innocuously called the "Welfare Party", emerged as the single largest group in an election held last December (for the Turkish electorate, like the leopard, does not change its spots); confusion was bound to follow.

Particularly because the election gave almost equal numbers of seats in the new parliament to no less than three groups: the Islamist Welfare and two right of centre Kemalist secular parties, True Path led by Tansu Ciller and Motherland, headed by Mesut Yilmaz.

Welfare, as the largest, was given first chance at forming the new government, but its leader, Necmettin Erbakan found that the other two refused to enter a coalition with his party in order to give Welfare a majority because of its Islamic background. The army's attachment to Kemalist secularism was mainly responsible for that refusal.

Mrs. Ciller and Mesut Yilmaz then formed a coalition government with Yilmaz as prime minister until the end of the year. The Turkish situation thus closely resembled that in India when the Hindu Nationalist Party emerged as the largest group in last month's election but due to its religious orientation was unable to form a majority government because of the refusal of the secular groups to give it their support. The Yilmaz government tottered on until Ciller withdrew her support because of deep personal animosity between herself and Yilmaz, exacerbated by Yilmaz's refusal to support her against corruption charges levied against her by the Welfare Party.

The wheel came full circle when President Suleiman Demirel turned last week to Welfare to attempt, once again, to form a government, hopefully this time with the support of one or other of the secular centrist parties. This is where the situation remains for the time being.

This prolonged political uncertainty has been directly caused by the divide between the Islamists, backed by popular loyalty to the faith, and the secularists, imposed on Turkey by Kemal Ataturk.

The division between secularists and Islamists has been enhanced in recent years by the increasing alienation of the urban and poor due to Turkey's economic collapse. The ruling secularists, guided by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, have adopted measures which have harmed the poorest sectors of the society while the Islamists, who now govern Turkey's major cities, have attempted to provide assistance to the most vulnerable sectors of society. In recent months the secular-Islamist confrontation has entered the sphere of foreign affairs because the rapprochement engineered between Israel and Turkey is opposed by Welfare and the Turkish man in the street who, naturally, tilts towards Islam and the Arabs.

Strange though it may seem, the Turkish experience is not the only example of the clash between what a people thinks it is and what a charismatic leader wants his people to be. In most countries this has taken the form of a tussle between modernising secularism and a popular religious faith. In India, for instance, the struggle is between the ideology of the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi — puritanical, austere "plain living and high thinking" — and devotion to the pursuit of the "good life" through consumerism, the India of Mahatma Gandhi versus the India of Rajiv Gandhi. In India today the Mahatma's ideals and practices have been submerged by rampant consumerism. So much so that modern observers of India have difficulty in finding any traces at all of the Mahatma's influence which has now become the subject of PhD theses by students of sociology.

In other countries this tussle has been a straightforward one between modernity and the traditional way of life. This was the case in Mao Tse Tung's China where modernity, imposed by the Communist Party, has won. Modernity, without the slightest hint of Communism, has also won in the puritanically modern efficient Singapore of Lee Kwan Yu.

Modernity won, for a time, also in Israel where there was the gap between the socialistic and puritanical Zionist vision of leaders like David Ben Gurion, on the one hand, and the Orthodox religious establishment and the laissez faire consumerists, on the other. The Likud victory in Israel's May 29 election could now submerge Israeli Jewish society in both religious and consumer orientation.

Another country in which a civilisational war has been waged between modernity and tradition is Egypt. But the Egyptian experience also had other ramifications for the modernists in Egypt, represented by Gamal Abdul Nasser, also sought to change the focus of his people from concentration on their Nilotic identity to opening to the Arab World. Nasser failed. As did his successor Anwar Sadat, who attempted to shift Egypt's external focus Westwards.

The identity of Egyptian people remains Nilotic and, like the Turks, most are deeply religious in the traditional, conventional sense. Indeed, ordinary people throughout the Arab World continue to follow their fathers in maintaining their close connection with

Islam and, as a result, are attracted by Islamist parties and movements. Present events in Algeria, the Palestinian occupied territories and even in Tunisia and Morocco have shown this to be true.

An overall survey of the battle between modernity and tradition now going on right across the Third World (and even in some countries of the First World) shows that the result in Turkey has been a draw, with the final decision yet to be reached. In India, Singapore and China modernity has, so far, prevailed. Therefore the answer to the question: "Can the leopard change its spots?" would seem to be: "Yes, it can but the change has to be handled with care and over a period of time."

### LETTERS

#### Work for good causes

To the Editor:

Your editorial "Habitat II, Same View" (Jordan Times June 10, 1996) correctly assessed the immensity of the problem of human settlements around the world and the difficulties that lie ahead in translating words into action with tangible results. Two of the points you made, however, deserve some clarification.

Concerning the issue of "spending huge amounts of money" on such conferences, it might be worthwhile to note that the total cost to the U.N. regular budget of Habitat II, including its preparatory negotiations, is approximately \$1.7 million, the lowest figure for any of the five major conferences held since 1992. The bulk of the conference costs are being covered by the Turkish government and by voluntary contributions from other countries. In any case, countries hosting such international conferences usually get back more than they spend in hotel, restaurant and other business revenue, not to mention international prestige.

As for questioning the efficacy and value of holding global conferences in the first place, the fact is that most of the world's leaders and policy-makers view such events as a watershed in shaping our global future.

In the end, as you said in your editorial, the responsibility for transforming rhetoric into action lies in the hands of national governmental and non-governmental bodies. However, these governmental and non-governmental bodies need some basic tools to tackle such major issues as human settlements, human rights and the environment.

This is where the U.N. global conferences come in. And they do this by mobilising national and local governments and non-governmental organisations to take action on major global problems; by establishing international standards and guidelines for national policy; by serving as a forum where new proposals can be debated and consensus sought; and by setting in motion a process whereby governments make commitments and report back regularly to the United Nations.

Surely a good beginning.

Vera Azar  
Information Officer  
United Nations Information Service,  
Amman.





# Muslims in Europe — how tolerance and respect can be promoted

Following is the text of a paper presented by Ingmar Karlsson, Ambassador, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden, and author of the book "Jordan and Europe" at the conference on relations between the Muslim World and Europe at Al al-Bayt University, June 10-13, 1996:

Racism, intolerance and a narrow nationalism are currently gaining strength throughout Europe, in reaction to a level of immigration which is insignificant compared with what we are likely to encounter in the future. These problems are already so serious that they can only be solved by joint European endeavours and a consistent European immigration and refugee policy.

One essential prerequisite for successful integration is that we build up our knowledge of the diversity of Islam and the varied nature of Muslim immigration. Now that the red peril has disappeared, we are often urged to believe that it has been replaced by a green Muslim threat. There is clearly a risk that this image will be exploited to reinforce a feeling of European unity — something which is now at a low ebb in all West European states after the euphoric years of the late 1980s. In view of the fact that there are already more than 15 million immigrants with a Muslim background in the European Union — a number bigger than that of the Scandinavian members — and that immigration from the Muslim World is going to continue, we must rid ourselves of this false negative scenario as soon as possible, a scenario which is often depicted in terms of uniform, fanatical Muslim masses preparing to storm the bastions of the West's welfare system under green banners of Islam, with scimitars in one hand and

the Koran in the other.

A policy designed to facilitate the integration of Muslim immigrant groups must be based on the following prerequisites and assumptions:

There are already large Muslim communities in most West European states. These communities will not only expand but they will also demand greater political influence as increasing numbers of Muslims become naturalised citizens and become enfranchised in their new home countries.

Muslims are not as easy to integrate and out as willing to allow themselves to be integrated as previous immigrant groups. An Islamic identity encompasses customs and traditions which deviate from those which are regarded as normal in the societies in which many Muslims are now living. Demands will be made for special rights and for a special status, in addition to the entitlements enjoyed by the native population. In many cases, these demands will not only be difficult to satisfy, but also impossible, and this will lead to tension.

Undesirable and undemocratic political tendencies in their countries of origin may be channelled into their new home countries by Muslim communities. Both the governments of Muslim states and the various sects and organisations will attempt to exploit the immigrants for their own purposes.

In light of these factors, what is the best way to integrate Muslim immigrants?

Although Jews and Christians are accepted as "peoples of the book," Islam has always been a dominant and hegemonic religion in historical terms. In Europe, Muslims must learn to live as a minority and to accept the fundamental pillars of modern European societies, that is

to say pluralism and a secular social system characterised by tolerance of people with a different political or religious viewpoint.

**"For many immigrants from Muslim countries, religion and a general sense of piety are one way of counteracting the feeling of rootlessness which they experience. Thus, religion may be a by-product of the break with their own cultural background and not necessarily a protest against the new society in which they are living."**

The objective must be integration, which is as rapid as possible, taking into account and respecting those who, while respecting our values, wish to maintain their own cultural and religious identity.

Taking into account special religious features must not, however, extend to excusing pupils from aspects of their education which do not suit their parents. Just as a full education in one's own religion must be regarded as a private matter, immigrants must also take responsibility for home-language training — something which is currently hindering integration. Muslims must themselves

become active in working for young people, so as to give a generation which has grown up in Europe a cultural background of their own while, at the same time, integrating them socially into their new environment. The Muslim communities must cooperate with each other and avoid fighting out their theological disputes openly on European territory.

As a result, a "domestic" leadership will have to emerge, thus permitting the elimination of the label attached to Islam as an alien and dangerous cult. This domestic leadership will not only consist of Muslims born in Europe, but perhaps also of native converts.

Most Muslims consider that they must comply with laws and regulations in their new home countries, but this willingness is undermined in many quarters by external appeals by organisations which prefer a "pure" Islam, without compromise. As a result, we must not tolerate the establishment of parallel political institutions.

Furthermore, we must not be too easy-going in dealing with religious and political fanatics who utilise their exile in Europe for subversive activities directed against their home countries or for internal disputes. Under no circumstances should tolerance be extended to totalitarian views or ideas. While we should demonstrate sympathy for Islam as a religion and ensure that the prerequisites for the exercise of religion are as favourable as possible, we must also demonstrate firmness as regards compliance with our own laws. At the same time, we must beware of regarding all religious expressions as signs of fundamentalism, or unwillingness to adapt and to become integrated into European societies.

A process of Islamisation amongst immigrants is only dangerous if it comes into conflict with the norms of a pluralistic society and a democratic state. For many immigrants from Muslim countries, religion and a general sense of piety are one way of counteracting the feeling of rootlessness which they experience. Thus, religion may be a by-product of the break with their own cultural background and not necessarily a protest against the new society in which they are living. Hence, greater religiously is not the same thing as suspicion and intolerance of a secularised European environment but may, instead, create an inner tranquillity which promotes tolerance and hence integration.

Individuals who devote themselves to preaching a doctrine of hatred directed against Europe and against Christianity, and who abuse our pluralistic societies, must be dealt with firmly and rejected. But, at the same time, we must not regard radical Muslim groups as an expression of an overall campaign to attack the Western World from within. There is no such plan and, furthermore, there is no Muslim leadership capable of drawing up such a campaign. Antagonism and enmity between different sects are often stronger than hatred of the Western World. Apparently, only 6 per cent of the Arabs in France regularly visit a mosque and only a few of the 60-70,000 Muslims in Sweden who practise their religion are fundamentalists. As far as the vast majority are concerned, the cultural and identity-supportive aspects of their religion are the most important factors.

Only a liberal and tolerant Islam can be integrated into Europe, and such an integration is only possible if it

is paralleled by economic and social integration. If this is to be achieved, those who are willing to become integrated must feel that they are welcome and that they belong here. The feeling of "where do I belong?" is one of the primary breeding grounds for fundamentalists who want to create and exploit a spiritual ghetto under the banner "you have no affinities either here or with your corrupt and morally decadent government in your home country — you have to fight against both of them."

If Muslim immigrants are

**"Only a liberal and tolerant Islam can be integrated into Europe, and such an integration is only possible if it is paralleled by economic and social integration. If this is to be achieved, those who are willing to become integrated must feel that they are welcome and that they belong here."**

Damascus, Mosul or Cairo.

Education in the Islamic faith is not only improved, but is made mandatory in our schools. The demonic factor needs to be eliminated on a mutual basis. Ignorance breeds prejudice and hatred. As a result, the media must also rectify the stereotyped and oversimplified view of Islam which is currently conveyed.

Society protects everyone who wants to be integrated into European society, but who is under threat and under pressure not only from local extremists and groups which are hostile to immigrants, but also from Muslim extremist groups.

Immigrants are given an opportunity to formulate and articulate their views and wishes.

We pursue development, cooperation and foreign policies which are designed to reduce the pressure of immigration and to make immigration more manageable in human and political terms.

If immigrants are integrated in this way, the Islamic community in Europe can become a bridge between Europe and immigrants' countries of origin. This would enable a fruitful triangular relationship to develop between the Islamic communities, their native countries and their new home countries, since many people living in the diaspora want to maintain close contacts with their origins.

On the other hand, if integration fails and immigrants with a Muslim background feel that they are subject to religious tutelage, forced into ghettos and socially marginalised, with continuing high rates of unemployment, we will have to reckon with the emergence of underground fundamentalism.

Koran schools in our immigrant suburbs, and with teachers

who urge their pupils to fight with all the means at their disposal against what they regard as an oppressive Swedish society.

Instead of a modern, tolerant "Euro-Islam" we will see a development of a "Ghetto-Islam," supported by fundamentalist forces in the Islamic World. Radical Muslims throughout Western Europe are currently attempting to exploit the psychological, cultural and material problems of Muslim immigrants for their own purposes, and politicians such as Jean-Marie Le Pen, Franz Schönhuber and Jörg Haider are giving them wind in their sails as a result of the polarisation which they have advocated in France, Germany and Austria.

If developments move in this direction, we must reckon that militant Muslim organisations will also endeavour to pursue their struggle with the Western World — which they regard as the incarnation of all evil — in Europe.

In this case, a "holy war" can become a reality in Western Europe sooner than we suppose, not in the form of a military struggle between the West and the Islamic World or the clash of civilisations that Huntington has in mind but as a kind of permanent guerrilla warfare in the ghettos of our major cities.

One of the aims of the conference on relations between European and Islamic culture and the position of Muslims in Europe that was held in Stockholm a year ago was to initiate a discussion on how we, with common efforts, can prevent this scenario from happening. No task can be more important and we are very grateful to Al al-Bayt University for giving us the opportunity to continue and deepen this discussion.

## Mideast wants peace — King

(Continued from page 1)

times," university President I. Jay Oliva said. In his nearly five decades as chief of state, he has shown "this dedication to democracy and his compelling vision for international peace."

King Hussein attended the academic convocation and dinner in his honour with Her Majesty Queen Noor and other members of the Royal family.

Following are major excerpts of King's address at New York University:

"I am privileged to be here today to accept an honorary doctorate of law from this distinguished university. I thank you wholeheartedly for this honour, not only because of the exalted reputation of the institution conferring it and not only because of the distinction of the previous recipients, who include presidents, prime ministers, Nobel prize winners and the chief of justice of the supreme court, but also and especially because it is a degree in law."

"My greatest concern is peace and always has been peace — peace in my region, and peace in the wider world. The foundation of peace is law. Law is the basis of civilised interaction between individuals, communities and nations."

"The Middle East, the birthplace of the monotheistic faiths, is the cradle of law. The holy writings of those faiths contain moral and legal codes on which much of the modern sense of justice is founded."

In international relations just as in our domestic affairs, Jordan has always been guided by law, policies are set up according to principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations.

"The Middle East has seen much suffering and disaster. Jordan has paid a high price in trying to uphold international law during the many conflicts which have plagued our region in this century. Our geographical situation at the epicentre of the Arab-Israeli and other conflicts has flooded our country with refugees and placed a severe burden on our national resources and economy."

"Even in 1967 in the face of devastating war, Jordan declared that its objective

was a just, lasting and comprehensive peace based on international law, as embodied in U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and later 338. We remained firm in this commitment, and cooperated with every initiative to that end. Finally with God's help, our efforts were crowned with success."

"One of the proudest moments of my life was the signing of the Jordan-Israeli peace treaty at Wadi Araba in October 1994. Since then Jordan and Israel have bilaterally negotiated, signed and set in place all the corollary agreements to the peace today."

"Since peace between states and peoples is more than the satisfactory completion of a contract, October 1994 marked the beginning of the transition from peace-making to peace-building."

"The challenge of peace-building lies in creating conditions that replace the illogic of war, which developed in people's minds over 40 years of conflict, with the logic of peace which brings with it all those relations which normally exist between neighbours and friends."

"This is not a transformation that can be produced to order. It must be carefully and lovingly nurtured. Only then can we replace the seemingly endless efforts of strife, destruction and suffering, that for far too long have represented our region to the rest of the world, with living examples of cooperation, progress and prosperity."

"To achieve this end, peace must be comprehensive. No country in the Middle East can enjoy sustainable growth while the shadow of conflict looms over a neighbour. The challenges that face the region are enormous and they will require the cooperation of all parties, in sincerity and hard work, to build a better future for our children and their children after them. The peace process needs to be resumed with increased energy and promoted with even greater vigour until peace reigns in all parts of the Middle East. I hereby reiterate Jordan's commitment to cooperate with all parties and to spare no effort towards realising this goal."

"Jordan will continue to oppose the forces of extremism and refuse to allow them to undermine what we have so carefully and democratically built. Where they gain strength they do so because radicalism finds fertile soil in discontent and hopelessness."

"The years of conflict have shattered the economies of the Middle East. The massive burdens of defence have wasted precious resources, both human and material. What is more, chronic instability has prevented real sustainable development from touching the daily lives of our peoples."

"Our fight against those who would destroy our peace is also our fight against poverty, unemployment and social exclusion, not only in the Middle East but in the wider world. Peace will prevail where hope wins out over despair."

"We believe that the economies of the region are capable of rapid, widely-shared and sustainable growth, yet for this we urgently require the interest and assistance of all our friends."

"The involvement of your great country in the Middle East has been relatively recent, but it has been intense and invaluable in the continuing quest for peace. It has been my privilege to work with nine American presidents, and the understanding we have built is now bearing fruit. I look forward to our continuing partnership."

"I thank you again for this great honour which I accept on behalf of my countrymen, and I take not as a tribute to myself, but to the principle of law we all strive together to uphold."

Later the King met a delegation representing the Jewish Anti-Defamation League in the U.S. and stressed that he had no doubt that all parties in the Middle East region seek peace.

"There is no alternative. There is no other way. There has never been," he said. We are determined to see that progress is continuing, and I hope that our peace with Israel will be a model and an example to others and we will certainly do our best to help others overcome difficulties so that we can have the comprehensive peace we all seek," the King said.

## Congress notified of F-16 supply

(Continued from page 1)

Benjamin Netanyahu as Israel's prime minister.

The two sides stressed the need to continue the peace process and not to pre-judge the stands of the future Israeli government.

The Jordanian side underlined the importance of having the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty as an example to be emulated by other parties in the Middle East.

The meeting also dealt with the Arab summit which will be held in Cairo later this month, with both sides expressing hope that the summit would help in pushing the peace process forward.

Also discussed at the meeting were bilateral ties and ways to enhance them, with particular emphasis on means to support Jordan in the economic and defence fields.

On the Jordanian side, the meeting was attended by Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, Royal Court Chief Awn Khasawneh, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, the King's military secretary, the king's advisor on National Security Affairs Mustafa Qaisi and other officials.

At a press conference following the meeting, King Hussein voiced Jordan's determination to continue its support for the peace process, expressing his optimism that comprehensive peace will

eventually prevail in the region.

He said he was glad to have the opportunity to meet with President Bill Clinton at this time which he described as extremely important. The King is scheduled to meet Mr. Clinton on Thursday.

He said the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty means a lot to the Jordanian people who wanted to lay the foundation for a comprehensive peace in the region, adding that Jordan will use its credibility with other countries of the world to help build a better future for the region.

Mr. Christopher paid tribute to the King's efforts in the peace process, saying he and President Clinton highly appreciate the King's courage and wisdom.

He voiced optimism about achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, saying that the majority of the Israelis have earlier chose the option of peace.

He said there was no reason for the pessimism that prevailed in the region following the election of Mr. Netanyahu and said those concerned should wait until the Likud leader forms his government.

Earlier, Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor received at their residence in Washington U.S. First Lady Hillary Clinton.

## Netanyahu to act 'forcefully'

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian autonomy police might even turn their weapons against Israelis, he added.

With Syria, "negotiations will not continue" because of the hardline on the Golan and this "will lead the Syrians to use the Hizbollah as pressure on Israel."

**Cabinet efforts**

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu briefed President Ezer Weizman Tuesday on his efforts to form a coalition government and reports that negotiations with key religious parties had hit a snag.

Mr. Netanyahu met early in the day with Mr. Weizman prior to the president's scheduled departure to attend a U.N. conference in Istanbul (see page 12).

Mr. Netanyahu, whose Likud Party won only 32 seats in the Knesset, the 120-member parliament, has been negotiating with three religious parties and three small secular formations to form a coalition government.

He has also met over the past two days with leading members of the Likud Party and two election allies to distribute cabinet positions amid reports that a battle over the budget-rich housing ministry was straining the coalition talks.

Likud sources have indicated that Mr. Netanyahu planned to give the post to former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, an influential hardliner who had been seeking the powerful defence or finance portfolio.

Mr. Netanyahu reportedly is unwilling to put such an outspoken opponent of the peace process in these high profile posts for fear of further alarming Arab states already concerned over the Likud platform concerning policy towards the Palestinian territories.

But control over the housing ministry was also being demanded by the right-wing National Religious Party (NRP), anxious to expand home construction for orthodox and ultra-orthodox Jews, and a newly formed party representing Russian-speaking immigrants for

whom housing is also a key concern.

Zevulun Hammer, leader of the NRP which won nine seats in the Knesset, has threatened not to join the Likud-led coalition if he does not obtain the housing ministry.

Mr. Netanyahu's efforts to

**New Iraq-U.N. dispute reported**

(Continued from page 1)

prime minister, Tareq Aziz, to discuss the incident.

Under a 1991 Gulf war ceasefire resolution, full trade sanctions against Iraq stay in place until Mr. Ekus verifies that all weapons of mass destruction and materials relating to them have been scrapped.

The U.N. team of missile experts arrived in Iraq on Monday while another team was dismantling a biological weapons plant.

U.N. officials have said that Baghdad has been more cooperative with weapons inspectors in recent months.

The United Nations and Iraq agreed last month to a deal in which Baghdad would sell \$1 billion in oil every 90 days to purchase food and humanitarian aid for the Iraqi people.

But Iraq's key goal always has been a full lifting of the trade sanctions that were imposed in 1990 after Baghdad's invasion of Kuwait.

Security Council ambassadors have said they will not lift the sanctions until Iraq fully cooperates with weapons inspectors.

An Iraqi opposition group said meanwhile

Iraqi oil exports will not begin until August at the

distribute cabinet posts were further complicated when Israel's attorney general announced Monday that he intended to indict Yitzhak Olmert, the Israeli minister of Jerusalem and a ministerial candidate, for allegedly violating campaign funding laws during 1988 elections.

Mr. Olmert was Israel's treasurer at the time. If indicted, he may not be appointed to the cabinet.

earliest because of the Iraqi regime's "intransigence in negotiations with the U.N."

A major point of contention is the choice of bank to hold the proceeds of Iraqi oil sales, said the Iraqi Broadcasting Corporation, the mouthpiece of the Iraqi National Congress.

All funds from Iraqi oil sales must be deposited in an escrow account to be controlled by the U.N.

"The Iraqi regime wants that account to be held at a Scandinavian bank with which it had extensive dealings during the period when President Saddam Hussein was making massive weapons purchases, the BBC said."

"The United States and Britain are objecting to the choice of this bank because of its close ties to Saddam and are proposing a German bank instead. The Iraqi regime is also proposing changes to the way in which foreign buyers' letters of credit presented and payment for Iraqi oil is made," it said.

According to BBC, another delay is being caused because the Baghdad government has not yet submitted a plan for the distribution of humanitarian aid. This plan must be approved by the U.N. before the oil sales can begin.

## Saudi trade minister arrives

(Continued from page 1)

ties through expanding the scope of a Jordanian-Saudi agreement to cover more items exempted from customs duties and other charges.

The two countries maintain close, historic relations and have common borders, and consequently their markets are open to each other, he said.

"We are living in a world of carrels and blocs, and therefore we should keep abreast with the march of development and exert every possible effort to support our two countries' economies, and establish strong economic and trade relations, based on mutual benefits and interests," the Saudi minister said.



# Protocol with S. Arabia alarms Jordanian industrialists

By Mervat Suwadeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In a further sign of improving Jordanian-Saudi relations, the two countries will Thursday sign a protocol that will lay the foundation for free trade movement between them.

But critics of the agreement, mostly industrialists, said the protocol will have negative repercussions on the Jordanian industry which will not be able to compete with the heavily-subsidised Saudi industries.

Economic analysts echoed the industrialists' concerns saying that such agreement would lead to "unequal competition" between Jordanian and Saudi products.

The protocol is widely perceived by economists and industrialists as a "politically-motivated step, that aims at improving ties with Saudi Arabia with whom relations have soured following the 1990 Gulf war."

Mubeiddin Jamal of Global Carpet and Rug Industries said his industry is not granted "fair competition" with Saudi manufacturers who get significant direct and indirect support from their government.

"The raw materials that are used in the Saudi industries are exempt from customs duty and rents in general are much lower in that country. It is normal therefore that their manufacturing costs are lower," Mr. Mubeiddin argued.

He stressed that his products, like those of many Jordanian industries, compete on "quality basis," but that it would be "impossible" to cope with the prices of the Saudi goods.

"If the Saudi products have to enter our market I will have to decrease my production and minimise my expenses," said Mr. Mubeiddin whose factory employs 300 workers.

Jamil Jubran, another industrialist, also feels threatened by the Saudi pro-

tocol, which, he says, will lead to flooding the Jordanian market with Saudi products.

"We need an anti-dumping law in Jordan, not only to protect us from the Saudi protocol, but from any other agreement that Jordan would join in the future. In the absence of such a law, our industries will definitely be harmed," Mr. Jubran maintained.

He said the Saudi industrial sector enjoys many incentives and subsidies that makes it capable of beating Jordanian industries even in the local market.

"For instance, Saudi manufacturers borrow at very low interest rates compared to the rates we are charged here. Water and electricity tariffs are also minimal there. These factors play a decisive role in price of the final product," he told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Jubran insisted that Jordan should "delay plans to open the market for free trade" until Jordanian

industries "become capable of competing with industries in other countries."

He said the government should move towards "lowering customs duty and other taxes" in order to ensure a competitive edge for local industries.

Imad Shamaa, whose company owns a cables factory, was more enthusiastic about implementing free trade agreements with Arab countries but stressed that the government should bear the responsibility of protecting the local industries and providing it with "the necessary support" that makes it capable of competition.

"When we complain, it is not because we think that our products are not good enough. It is simply because the environment that we work in is not an easy one," Mr. Shamaa maintained.

"What we ask for is the government's support. Under the current situation, we will not be able to compete with the Saudis. We are not against Saudi products

but we need to protect our own," he argued.

Trade and Industry Minister Ali Abul Ragheb declined to comment beyond saying that "the industrialists' concerns were not justifiable since Saudi Arabia and Jordan had a similar protocol since 1992" and that his ministry "has carefully studied more than 50 of the exempted products in order to protect local industries."

The protocol which will be signed Thursday will replace another one that was concluded in 1992.

Under the old protocol, Jordanian exports to Saudi Arabia ranged between JD70 to JD80 million annually since 1992, while Saudi imports to the Kingdom increased from JD39 million in 1992 to JD91 million last year. Trade deficit between the two countries stood at JD21 million in favour of Saudi Arabia.

Ali Dajani, advisor at the Chamber of Industry, argued that opening the

Jordanian market will benefit local industries by promoting its drive for achieving a competitive edge.

"We either shoot high or we stagnate," Mr. Dajani said. "Our industries should improve their products and become capable of competing. Sooner or later, our industries will have to face a much tougher situation," Mr. Dajani emphasised.

Fahd Faneh, an economic analyst, criticised the Saudi-Jordanian protocol as "unjustifiable at this stage," because the Jordanian industrial sector faces many hindrances that reduce its competitiveness.

"When we talk about competition it has to be on equal basis. Customs duties on raw materials in Saudi Arabia are nil and loans are granted at very low rates. How can our industry compete with all that," Mr. Faneh asked.

He stressed that the protocol was concluded "for political objectives" that will eventually hurt the

economy. "Jordanian industries will hardly benefit and some will be expelled from the market as a result of this protocol," he maintained.

Jawad Anani, former minister and economist, agreed that some industries will suffer because of the protocol but he said that it was the responsibility of the government to compensate such industries directly or indirectly.

"The government has taken this decision for political reasons. As such, it should compensate local industrialists by formulating new laws that can help them to compete properly. The tax and customs law should be changed in order to achieve this end," Mr. Anani told the Jordan Times.

## EU finance ministers censure Germany on deficits

LUXEMBOURG (R) — European Union (EU) finance ministers, censured Germany Monday for its deteriorating public finances and watered down its proposal aimed at ensuring fiscal rigour once the single European currency has taken off.

The ministers removed Denmark from a list of countries they consider miss the strict financial targets for the single currency but added Germany to it. German Finance Minister Theo Waigel accepted the latter move but criticised the former.

He warned Denmark's favourable standing might set a dangerous precedent. "I don't want a false signal to be sent," he told reporters after the ministerial discussions.

While accepting that Germany's fiscal situation had worsened considerably over the past year, Mr. Waigel said the positive marks for Denmark could weaken the credibility of the Maastricht treaty's economic convergence process.

Countries wishing to

join a single currency must bring their budget deficits close to three per cent of total output. They must also show that total public debt is approaching the reference value of 60 per cent of GDP.

Germany has repeatedly argued for a strict interpretation of the debt and deficit criteria as a way of ensuring a successful launching of the single currency in 1999.

The European Commission recently estimated that Denmark's budget deficit would fall to just under one per cent of GDP in 1997, the year aspiring candidates will be judged for fitness.

But Germany's criticism was aimed more at Denmark's outstanding debt level which is forecast to stand at 68.7 per cent of total output in 1997. Germany's own debt level is seen edging up to 62.4 per cent of output in the same year.

Germany worries that if Denmark is considered to meet the criteria other countries with even higher debt levels might clamour for a similar reading.

The ministers also agreed a progress report on EMU for EU leaders meeting in Italy later this month. The report focuses on a revamped exchange rate mechanism (ERM) after the start of monetary union in 1999 and on Mr. Waigel's idea of a stability pact to ensure fiscal rigour from those in EMU.

While Mr. Waigel's plan included draconian fines on countries running deficits above three per cent of total output, the compromise which is emerging would give greater bite to the EU's existing procedure for dealing with lax budget policies.

Wording Germany had proposed for the stability pact part of the report met resistance from other members and was changed.

An EU official said the wording in the report now said there would be "a presumption that the commission would implement fines" if an excessive deficit "persists".

Germany had wanted fines if a deficit existed at all, let alone persisted.

## Mideast needs \$21b in oil investments

MANAMA (AFP) — The countries of the Middle East have to invest \$20.8 billion in developing their oil industries, Bahraini Oil and Industry Minister Issa Ibn Ali Al Khalifa told a conference here Monday.

"A new investment of \$20.8 billion will be required in this sector of the oil industry in the Middle East up to the year 2000," he said, inaugurating an international petrochemical forum called Middle East Petrotech 96.

"Major projects in the Gulf Cooperation Council states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar — involve an investment of \$13.6 billion," he added.

Abdullah Jumaa, president and chief executive officer of Saudi Arabia's state-owned oil giant Saudi Aramco, said part of those investments must be poured into the refining and petrochemical industries.

"Refining and petrochemical manufacturing share many areas of operation, both industries utilise many of the same basic processes to upgrade raw materials to final products," he told the conference.

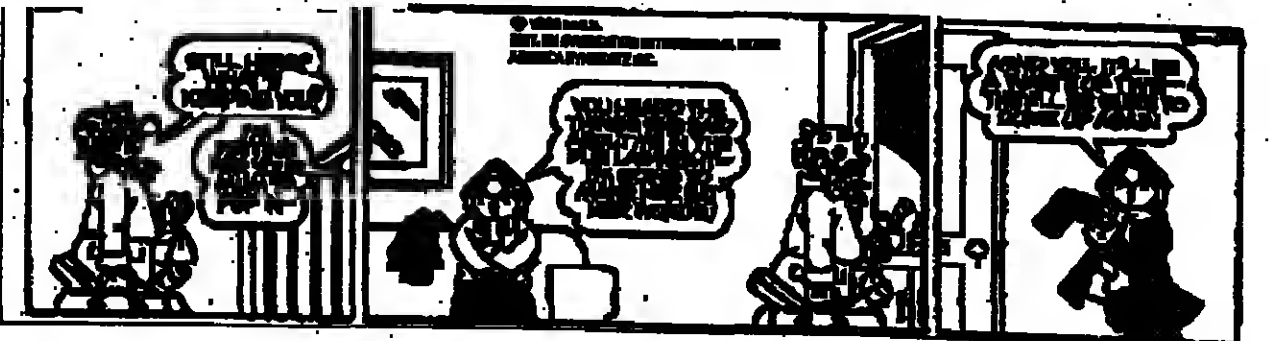
"There are similar requirements necessary to support these industries, for instance, the availability of hydrocarbon feedstock, substantial capital investment in plants, equipment, infrastructure in terms of power, water treatment and distribution," Mr. Jumaa added.



## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JUNE 12, 1996

By Thomas S. Pierson,  
Astrologer, Carroll  
Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Don't scatter your assets around today so that you lose out on regular income and security. Avoid sarcasm with your mate or you could find yourself in the dog house later tonight which all could have been avoided.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Work on the details of any important contracts you are formulating today with others and be sure of what is written or stated, otherwise there could be some costly mistake which could have been avoided earlier.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Analyse your career activities carefully and eliminate any mistakes which may be in them, and then you can safely go on with them. Later tonight you can schedule some time with a knowledgeable person for some discussions.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Don't delve into extremely expensive entertainment during the daytime today, since later tonight you can enjoy the tried and true methods of operation which have not failed you before and you can always trust.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You seem to have too many career activities to do today, however, if you plan your hours wisely, you can soon finish them and have time for other activities which you do enjoy with close friends and loved ones.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Get your special talents working today and you will favour with those in authority. Be sure to plan the days ahead sensibly. The evening is fine for socialising with fellow associates and close friends.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Plan what you want to do at home in the evening and you can make your loved ones much happier. Be in tip-top shape today in case you find need to entertain important business contacts.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You may find it hard to communicate with those you wish to see in the morning today, however, after lunch, it is easy to do so. Later tonight, you will be able to consult with those in authority and get their suggestion.

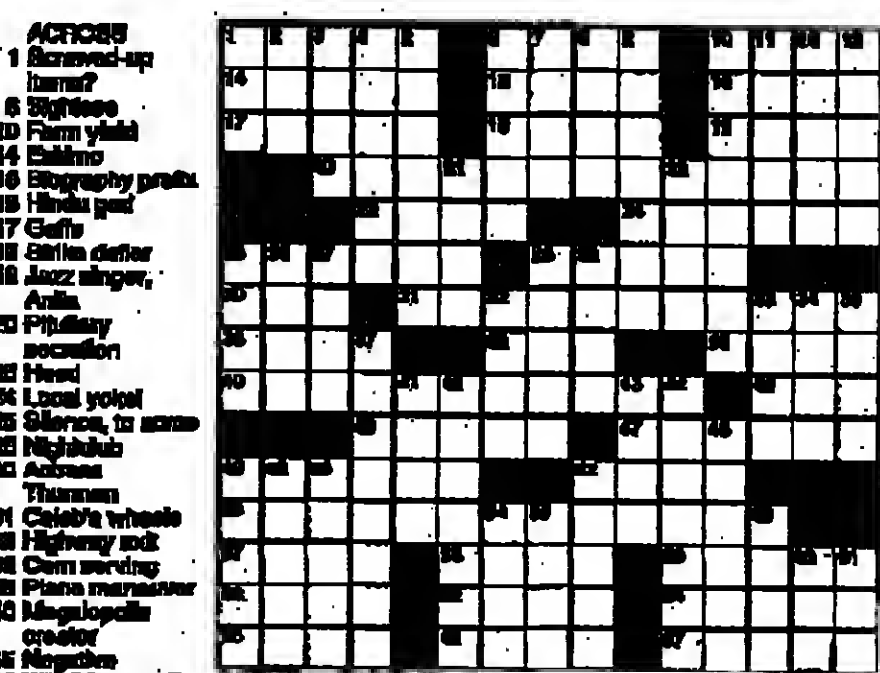
**SAGITTARIUS:** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may find snags connected with your practical affairs today, but keep at them and you get the right results which you had anticipated. Later this evening will be good for meeting with fellow associates on some important project.

**CAPRICORN:** (Dec. 22 to January 20) Plan how to gain what you desire today, even if the progress is slow at first, however, later this evening get fine results from the investigating you do with the assistance of fellow associates and knowledgeable persons.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Get at the duties which only you can handle and they are soon completed during the daytime today. Seek out charming people later this evening who can be great assistance to you for some important new project.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Labour by yourself during the daytime today and get the fine results which you expect. Tonight you can get added support from others who have more experience and knowledge concerning some career activities. Birthstone of June: Emerald — Citrine.

## THE Daily Crossword by Chuck Deedee



- ACROSS**
- Scrambled-up item?
  - Flam yidd
  - Chino
  - Biography prize
  - Hand put
  - Gaffe
  - Stria dater
  - Jazz singer, Anita
  - Pituitary secretion
  - Head
  - Local yidd
  - Gloria, to some
  - Nightclub
  - Autism
  - Thames
  - Cole's whale
  - Highway exit
  - Com serving
  - Piano maracas
  - Megalopoli creator
  - Negative
  - Whiskered soil
  - Endospores
  - Pulse server
  - Prof. E. Lee's mark abbr.
  - League newspaper
  - Shower
  - Malaga
  - Shroud
  - centrally
  - Labor
  - Colloid
  - Hopless one
  - Pistol
  - Curfew
  - Come in
- DOWN**
- Tucker's partner
  - Lorraine
  - Isolated
  - Brother
  - Showering
  - component
  - Flaming light
  - Discontent
  - Cry in pain
  - Enigma
  - Young's state
  - Mechanical
  - English hero, Oliver
  - Polaroid pen
  - Mostly native
  - For recipient
  - Deposed
  - Quadruple
  - Columbus' sailor
  - Spiritualist
  - Past Mayan
  - Young man
  - Chicago
  - gibbon
  - Other: Sp.
  - Oliver agents, for short
  - Andrew Elmy
  - Anchor
  - Chinese
  - Obviously
  - Lunch item
  - Stimulate, as apple
  - Androsy
  - Alarm item
  - Dead covering
  - Land
  - To fish — of water
  - Chant
  - Pelvic bones
  - Conced with
  - Breath freshener
  - Showered side
  - On safety



# Business & Finance

Jordan Times, Wednesday, June 12, 1996 9

## Arab states urged to open bourses to foreigners

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab Gulf states should open their stock markets to foreigners to stem the flow of capital from the region and restore balance to their ailing current accounts, economists have said.

Allowing foreigners to own shares in the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states would raise share dealing on their bourses which, despite their large capitalisation, have a very low turnover, they said.

"GCC states should start promoting the idea of opening their stock markets to foreigners residing in the region as a first step, then to (allowing) international investors certain terms that set a ceiling on their ownership," said Henry Azzam, chief economist at the Saudi National Commercial Bank.

"This will add depth to the markets, boost share-dealing and pave the way for a joint regional stock exchange in line with the GCC economic agreement," he added.

Mr. Azzam, writing in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) daily Al Khaleej, said such a move would attract foreign investors and stop the flow of capital from the region by encouraging expatriate workers to send less money home.

He estimated that around \$20 billion earned by foreigners, who account for nearly half the population, were leaving the GCC every year.

"If GCC countries open investment channels for these foreigners, especially allowing them to trade in shares, then this will contribute to reducing those remittances and cutting the deficit in the current account," said Mr. Azzam.

Share-dealing in the GCC is among the lowest in the world because of the restrictions on foreign investors, the large government ownership, and a tendency for long-term investment.

Official figures showed the six GCC markets had a capitalisation of nearly \$73 billion at the end of 1995, more than 70 per cent of the total Arab share capitalisation.

But dealing has generally remained below 20 per cent of the number of shares while it was under three per cent in the UAE last year.

Only around five per cent of the population own shares compared with an average of 20 to 30 per cent in industrial countries.

Mr. Azzam said a decision by GCC states to open up their bourses would also support reforms they have launched to repair economic damage caused by weak oil prices. The reforms include privatisation and improvement of investment laws.

"Expansion of the stock markets in the GCC countries is essential for the success of the privatisation programmes and their policies of encouraging the private sector to play a bigger role in development," he said.

## Bankers warn on huge executive salaries

SYDNEY (AFP) — Top bankers have warned that some investment banks were breaking the principle of pay for performance by offering guaranteed bonuses, making shareholders suffer while executives got richer.

In the final day of the International Monetary Conference's (IMC) meeting here, executive remuneration was the hot topic in a discussion on competition in global financial services.

"The traditional link between profitability, shareholder value and employee remuneration is getting broken," Barclays Bank Chairman Andrew Buxton said. "Shareholders are actually getting less as employees are getting more and that is a threat that the shareholder banks should recognise."

However, he said investment bankers who had shown their effectiveness by generating profits for the company should be paid accordingly.

"As long as there is a clear link between shareholder value, success and employee remuneration, I fully support the payment of high bonuses and high salaries," he said.

Chairman and chief executive of the First Chicago NBD Corporation, Veme Istook, said the practice of offering guaranteed bonuses for up to three years violated the pay for performance concept.

Mr. Buxton said he was "very much against" long-term guaranteed bonuses, although an assured bonus in the first year was "certainly prevalent because somebody is moving into uncertainty."

Ing Group Chairman Aad Jacobs said remuneration levels were a vexed issue in Holland, but the problem there was that packages were more than 50 per cent less than for similar positions in the United States, Britain and Australia.

"If you want good investment people... there is no way to escape the fact that if they are doing a good job they reserve good remuneration," he said, adding that salaries in continental Europe were now increasing.

Addressing a suggestion that a cost structure was being built into banking remuneration that would not be able to survive the next downturn, Mr. Jacobs said large packages were feasible as long as bonuses were contingent on good performance.

## Bank of Israel warns of risks to banking sector

TELAVIV (R) — The Bank of Israel's supervisor of banks warned of risks to commercial banks because of the increased amount of bank credit to building contractors.

"I think the banking system has exhausted its exposure to the real estate sector. Therefore contractors should start looking for other sources of credit outside the banking system," Ze'ev Abeles told a news conference.

As of December 1995, 21 per cent of the total credit granted by the five major banks was to the building industry.

In the past four years the amount of bank credit to the building industry grew by an average 27 per cent a year, against an average 13 per cent rise in total credit to the public.

In addition, the amount of foreign currency loans taken by the building industry rose from 15 per cent of the total loans taken by the industry at the end of 1993 to 29 per cent at the end of 1995.

"This phenomenon is particularly worrying because in addition to the risks in the building sector, the contractors are exposed to further financial risk because of the possibility the exchange rate will go up," Mr. Abeles said.

He also warned of the higher risks facing mortgage banks. A growing share of the loans extended by the mortgage banks have been granted under their own guarantees rather than government guarantees.

## DAILY REVIEW

### Various government departments to set up investment units

\*\*PRIME MINISTER Abdul Karim Al Kabariti has issued a communique demanding that an investment unit be set up at every ministry and government department whose functions are related to providing services to investors.

The Council of Ministers earlier decided to form a committee to study simplifying administrative procedures and finding solutions to eliminate routine and bureaucracy in the area of investment. The committee is headed by Minister of State Hisham Al Tal and includes representatives from various ministries and official departments. Mr. Tal said the committee would seek to resolve any bottlenecks hindering the investment process and to shorten the procedures for the investors. The minister said that the committee, which considers itself available at any time, will review at its next session, the special forms that have been prepared to facilitate the procedures for investment projects whether they are in purchasing real estate for non-residents or in registering investment and commercial institutions (Al Aswak).

### Commercialisation of Telecommunication Corporation to be completed before end of October

\*\*THE TELECOMMUNICATION Corporation will be transformed into a commercial entity fully-owned by the state before the end of October 1996 in accordance with the Companies Law. The corporation's director-general, Waleed Dweik, said in a lecture that organisational measures and studies are being conducted at present to commercialise the corporation before moving on to its privatisation. Mr. Dweik pointed out that the corporation has 375,000 telephone lines throughout the kingdom and that automatic exchanges cover 75 per cent of all telephone exchanges in Jordan. He revealed that the corporation was in the process of preparing an agreement with the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank in finance the expansion of the telephone network in Aqaba to 19,000 lines instead of the present 7,000 lines. The corporation has also contracted the German company Siemens to install 21 automatic exchange and 89 auxiliary ones in cover the northern areas of the Kingdom and the Municipality of Greater Amman (Al Ra'i).

### Iraqi-Jordanian company plans to raise capital to \$70 million

\*\*THE IRAQI-Jordanian Land Transport Company plans to increase its capital from \$50 million to \$70 million, the company's general manager, Ayasir Al Safi has said. The company, which was established in 1980 with a \$14 million capital, has raised the equity to \$25 million and then to \$50 million as a result of profits achieved over the years. The company currently owns 350 modern trucks and has purchased 100 new trucks last year, Mr. Safi said, noting that the company transported 500,000 tonnes of goods last year with its trucks making 20,000 internal and external journeys. Mr. Safi said the company employs nearly 800 persons who are paid about JD 300,000 every month (Al Aswak).

## Financial Markets

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin  
Date: 11/6/1996

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.7080	0.7100
Swiss Franc	1.0950	1.0980
Deutsche Mark	0.6611	0.6634
Swiss Franc	0.5589	0.5617
French Franc	0.1561	0.1563
Japanese Yen	0.6495	0.6507
Dutch Guilder	0.4119	0.4140
Swedish Krona	0.0457	0.0459
Italian Lira	0.0457	0.0459
Belgian Franc	0.0457	0.0459

Other Currencies  
Date: 11/6/1996

Currency	Bid	Offer
Israeli Sheqel	1.8620	1.8780
Lebanese Lira	0.044425	0.044525
Saudi Riyal	0.1870	0.1895
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.3310	0.3370
Qatari Riyal	0.1932	0.1945
Egyptian Pound	0.2100	0.2200
Omani Riyal	1.8330	1.8410
UAE Dirham	0.1922	0.1935
Greek Drachma	0.2725	0.3125
Cypriot Pound	1.4725	1.5125

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Closing 11/6/96	Tokyo Closing 11/6/96
Swiss Franc	1.5350	1.5370
Deutsche Mark	1.5355	1.5354
Swiss Franc	1.2613	1.2632

ARABIAN FINANCIAL MARKET  
HOUSING SECTOR TOTALS  
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 11/06/1996

PAST 12 MONTHS HIGH	PAST 12 MONTHS LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P/E	DIV.	NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF CHANG.	VALUE TRADED	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE
250,000	205,000	ARAB BANK	12.1	1.58	5	300	66620	223.00	222.00	1.00
4,740	4,250	CATRO AMMAN BANK	11.4	2.13	1	200	2440	4.70	4.70	-
2,700	2,220	INDUSTRIAL DEV. BK.	5.1	6.24	2	750	2673	3.24	3.23	0.01
1,440	920	JOR. GULF BANK	5.8	7.22	4	4600	4417	0.97	0.97	-
8,090	7,700	ARAB JOR. INV. BK.	19.8	0.00	10	1870	3700	3.70	3.70	-
4,180	3,300	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	18.6	0.00	10	1197	2112	3.88	3.87	0.01
4,600	1,950	UNION BK. SAV. INV.	17.1	0.00	3	1100	2112	1.96	1.96	-
4,420	3,100	JOR. INV. FID. BANK	19.1	0.00	3	119	421	3.56	3.54	0.02
1,210	1,100	ARAB BANK INV.	9	0.00	24	18200	8322	0.46	0.46	-
1,930	1,070	PELICAN INV. BK.	9	0.00	9	1404	1437	1.20	1.18	0.02
BANK SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 176.08	%CHG: -0.34	63	30972	101070			
2,910	2,300	JOR. FRENCH INSUR.	6.5	8.73	3	900	1832	2.20	2.29	0.01
4,600	3,900	ALJAZIR AL-ARAB	9.4	5.41	1	250	925	3.70	3.70	-
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 123.36	%CHG: -0.50	4	1050	2757			
1,900	1,530	JOR. ELECTRIC PWR.	10.8	7.69	13	9748	15205	1.58	1.58	-
1,560	1,140	JOR. ELECTRICITY	8.5	7.41	6	1220	1853	1.38	1.35	0.01
7,220	4,000	ARAB INTEL. BOWEL	16.3	3.13	4	1440	6910	4.80	4.80	-
1,290	800	JORDAN INTL. TRAD.	17.9	0.00	4	362	310	0.89	0.85	0.04
1,800	1,500	MOCH. IND. SERV. MACH.	9	0.00	1	2000	2960	0.26	0.26	-
3,660	3,040	ARAB INTEL. INV. EDUC.	12.5	6.31	3	1910	6102	3.21	3.17	0.04
1,500	980	AMMAN EDUCATION	9	0.00	7	2350	2397	1.01	1.02	0.01
2,840	1,870	UNIFIED CO.	10.8	4.88	7	3700	2602	1.07	1.05	0.02
1,200	820	UNION LAND DEV.	2	0.00	2	1750	1778	1.04	1.01	0.03
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 774.44	%CHG: -0.41	47	26220	44998			
32,080	18,950	JOR. TOBACCO & CH.	16.8	2.61	32	18	374	20.80	20.80	-
3,950	3,270	JOR. CHEMIST PAGE	19.7	1.90	32	22740	78474	0.50	0.45	0.05
3,550	2,900	JOR. PHOSPHATE MINES	31.7	0.00	1	400	1180	2.95	2.95	-
5,960	4,750	ARAB POTASH CO.	16.0	3.79	1	1500	8448	5.28	5.28	-
10,770	8,900	JOR. PETROLEUM REFIN.	13.6	5.90	22	2401	24458	10.15	10.17	0.02
8,000	7,000	JORDAN TANKERS	7	0.00	9	710	5958	7.15	7.14	0.01
3,800	2,910	INDUSTRIAL REFIN. MGR.	37.1	0.00	1	250	590	2.21	2.17	0.04
5,460	3,410	ARAB PHARM. MFG.	19.4	5.65	20	23100	81808	3.58	3.54	0.04
6,450	5,800	JOR. CHEMICAL IND.	7.6	4.10	2	950	5915	6.20	6.10	0.10
3,400	2,600	GRANDAL HENTING	6.9	11.11	3	734	1952	2.75	2.70	0.05
3,450	4,100	ARAB ALUM. IND.	6.3	9.99	1	400	1604	6.13	4.01	2.12
1,740	1,450	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	9	0.00	61	81700	50846	0.61	0.62	0.01
1,500	1,180	ARAB PAPER CONV. IND.	6.3	0.49	10	4900	8924	1.21	1.22	0.01
2,850	1,210	MULTI-NATIONAL STEEL IND.	9	0.00	5	3850	4781	1.21	1.16	0.05
1,450	1,310	MULTI-NATIONAL TRADING	12.1	7.32	9	7150	5958	0.83	0.82	0.01
2,670	1,950	INDUSTRIAL PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	64	36650	50576	1.41	1.38	0.03
1,770	1,500	JOR. SUPPLY CO.	9	0.00	2	2230	2273	1.01	1.01	-
2,410	1,080	ARAB PHARM. CHEM.	30.9	0.00	130	54500	89020	1.68	1.65	0.03
1,820	1,430	RAJINDER INVEST.	11.9	0.00	1	500	720	2.42	1.44	0.98
1,580	1,300	UNIV. MOON IND.	7.6	8.03	5	3000	2978	2.82	2.48	0.34
2,320	1,280	JOR. TRNG. RESOURCES	39.2	0.00	16	13350	20078	1.54	1.53	0.01
2,000	1,000	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	32.1	0.00	24	10100	11952	1.21	1.18	0.03
2,500	1,780	EL-SAYEAD WEAR	9	0.00	15	7450	14198	1.94	1.95	0.01
1,540	1,180	TEXT. WAREHOUSE	22.4	0.00	9	2800	2517	1.25	1.25	-
2,520	1,180	UNION CH. & VEG.	22.5	0.00	1	5000	5600	1.30	1.32	0.02
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 112.94	%CHG: -0.45	446	184830	479597			
GRAND TOTAL			INDEX: 144.11	%CHG: -0.39	560	341592	628422			

PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 11/06/1996									
1.870	1.000	JOR. TRADE FAC.	19.5	0.00	1	100	73	.73	-
1.410	1.050	ARAB FOR INVESTMENT	28.1	0.00	15	4050	5840	1.41	1.42 .01
1.000	.760	UNION INV. SOF.	75.5	0.00	6	1741	522	.80	.80 -
1.490	.630	ARAB FID. INVEST.	0	0.00	6	2100	2400	.77	.77 -
28.860	35.100	JOR. TOURIST TRADING	2.6	2.55	1	250	2978	36.86	36.70 1.84
1.690	1.400	JOR. INDUS. MACH. SERVED	0	0.00	1	500	306	.61	.61 -
1.110	.630	ARAB FOOD & MFG.	0	0.00	4	4350	2278	.68	.68 -
1.930	1.380	KATL. CALABRINE	0	0.00	13	11050	17580	1.59	1.69 .10
1.180	.600	KATL. TACTILE	0	0.00	2	1150	726	.42	.42 -
1.450	700	KATL. BULK MACH. HARTCO	0	0.00	17	13398	10213	.77	.77 .01
1.150	.800	JORDAN STEEL	0	0.00	11	2024	2761	.91	.91 -
.990	.540	AFRAN SELECT. INDUS.	0	0.00	4	2400	1136	.54	.54 -
1.030	.670	NIKOSANT PEARLS 75%	0	0.00	4	3000	1260	.67	.67 -
1.850	1.100	UNION TOBACCO 75%	0	0.00	24	35700	1364	1.26	1.26 .02
1.030	.640	RAILY TUBES 65%	0	0.00	1	8500	130	.73	.71 -
1.000	.660	PEARL SHAM. P. CONV.	0	0.00	2	117	60	.69	.69 -
.970	.710	KATL. POLYMER 75%	0	0.00	5	2100	923	.71	.71 .01
1.800	.680	MIXO. EAST COMPLEX	8.3	0.00	37	27100	19241	.71	.71 -
					180	113783	122621		



## Cuban triple jumpers hope to go beyond 18 metres

MADRID (R) — Cubans Yoelvis Quesada and Eliecer Urrutia aim to join Briton Jonathan Edwards as the only triple jumpers to go beyond 18 metres when they compete at an international meeting here on Wednesday.

The pair have the best two marks without wind assistance in the world this year and both were also achieved on Spanish soil.

Quesada jumped 17.75 metres in Granada last month while Urrutia leaped 17.70 in Seville last Thursday.

The Cuban camp are optimistic that Quesada and Urrutia can get close to 18 metres because the Madrid runway is fast and the early evening weather is expected to be warm.

Last year Quesada won the corresponding contest with 17.97 metres which would have equalled the then world best but for an excessive following wind.

Edwards jumped a wind-assisted 17.79 metres on the same track nine days ago in the European Cup.

The Cubans arrived in Spain in the middle of May and along with 20 of their compatriots, including Olympic champions Javier Sotomayor and Maritza Marten, have been training in Guadalajara, 50 kilometres from here as part of their build up to Atlanta.

Meeting organisers had hoped Wednesday night would feature a showdown between the Cubans and Edwards but the latter pulled out on Monday, citing the heel and knee problems which have also led to his withdrawal from this weekend's British Olympic trials in Birmingham.

Nevertheless the competition should be more than just a two man show. Dominica's Jerome Romain, the 1995 World Championship bronze medalist, is also in the field along with another world championship finalist in Latvia's Maris Bruziks.

The women's triple jump promises to be equally exciting. Inessa Kravets, from the Ukraine, the 1995 world champion and holder of the world best at 15.50 metres, takes on Russia's Ana Biryukova, her predecessor as world champion.

In addition to the large Cuban contingent, which includes Sotomayor, Marten and world 800 metres champion Ana Fidelia Quirot, Zambia's Samuel Matete will defend his unbeaten record this year in the 400 metres hurdles while Norway's Geir Moen contests the men's sprints.

## Kukoc says foreign players should try the NBA

SEATTLE (R) — Croatian Toni Kukoc, one victory away from adding a National Basketball Association championship to his glittering European record, has some advice for ambitious foreign players: Try the NBA as soon as possible.

Speaking one day after his Chicago Bulls crushed the Seattle SuperSonics to go up 3-0 in the best-of-seven NBA finals, Kukoc said Monday that only in the NBA could a player fully develop his talents.

"If you stay in Europe — it doesn't matter which place, be it Italy, Greece, Spain, Croatia — you're not going to improve your game," said the versatile 27-year-old swingman, winner of the NBA's sixth man of the year award this season.

"So I would say for everyone in Europe, for every young player interested in basketball, in becoming a better player, come here as soon as possible," added the three-time European player of the year and member of three European championship teams.

Kukoc, who won two Olympic silver medals (Yugoslavia, 1988, and Croatia, 1992) and starred for Italy's Benetton Treviso before coming to the United States three seasons ago, was emphatic

that if the NBA called, a European player should answer immediately.

"There's going to always be the time after you try the NBA, and see what's going on, and have or don't have success, there's always going to be time to go back and play (in Europe), and have plenty of money or whatever."

"But if you're really interested about basketball, you have to come here to the NBA and try," he insisted.

Even if it means playing for one of the NBA's weakest teams?

Sure, why not? said Kukoc. "Nobody said that Minnesota or Toronto is not going to be a good team in four or five years."

"Orlando four years ago wasn't even in the playoffs and last year they played in the finals. Just one or two key players can turn a team around."

He said it is the NBA, with supreme talent like his teammate Michael Jordan and the Houston Rockets' Hakeem Olajuwon, which offers the ultimate basketball challenge.

"In the NBA, if you have an opportunity to play, it doesn't matter which team you are on, you still have a chance to win against the best in the world. You know, give a shot at let's say guarding Michael, or

playing against Hakeem."

Kukoc would not presume to say which players should come to the United States, adding that "these three years I'm in the NBA I don't follow European basketball that much."

Kukoc was asked about fellow Croatian Arijan Komacek, a shooting guard who plays for Bologna's Liga A Buckler team alongside ex-NBA player Orlando Woolridge and who has a game similar to the late Drazen Petrovic, who starred for the New Jersey Nets. Should Komacek try the NBA?

"That's his decision," Kukoc said. However, he didn't think Komacek was improving in Europe. "I think he was the same kind of player a few years ago that he is right now," Kukoc said.

Kukoc, who usually looks rather grave and overawed by his superstar teammates Jordan and Scottie Pippen, was asked if he would ever be seen smiling on the court.

"Like I did in Europe?" he asked, laughing.

"Once I feel good about my game in the NBA, I'll probably start to smile more but right now I don't think it's time. MJ can smile. Pip can smile," said the modest Kukoc.

## Breeder's Cup to stay in Canada

TORONTO (R) — The 1996 edition of the Breeders' Cup thoroughbred racing series will be staged in Canada as originally planned, following the settlement of a labour dispute that threatened to disrupt the multi-million dollar event.

Breeder's Cup Ltd. announced Monday that the 1996 event would be held at Woodbine Race Track outside of Toronto on October 26 after all.

The announcement came two days after the Ontario Jockey Club and service employees' international union, local 528, entered into a memorandum of agreement to end their labour dispute.

"We couldn't be happier with the news and it is without question a joint effort of many, many people," said Ontario Jockey Club President David Wilmut.

"We always hoped that the Breeders' Cup could be saved, but I think it took the loss of it to bring a sense of realism to all of us, that brought about the solution that was necessary to preserve it."

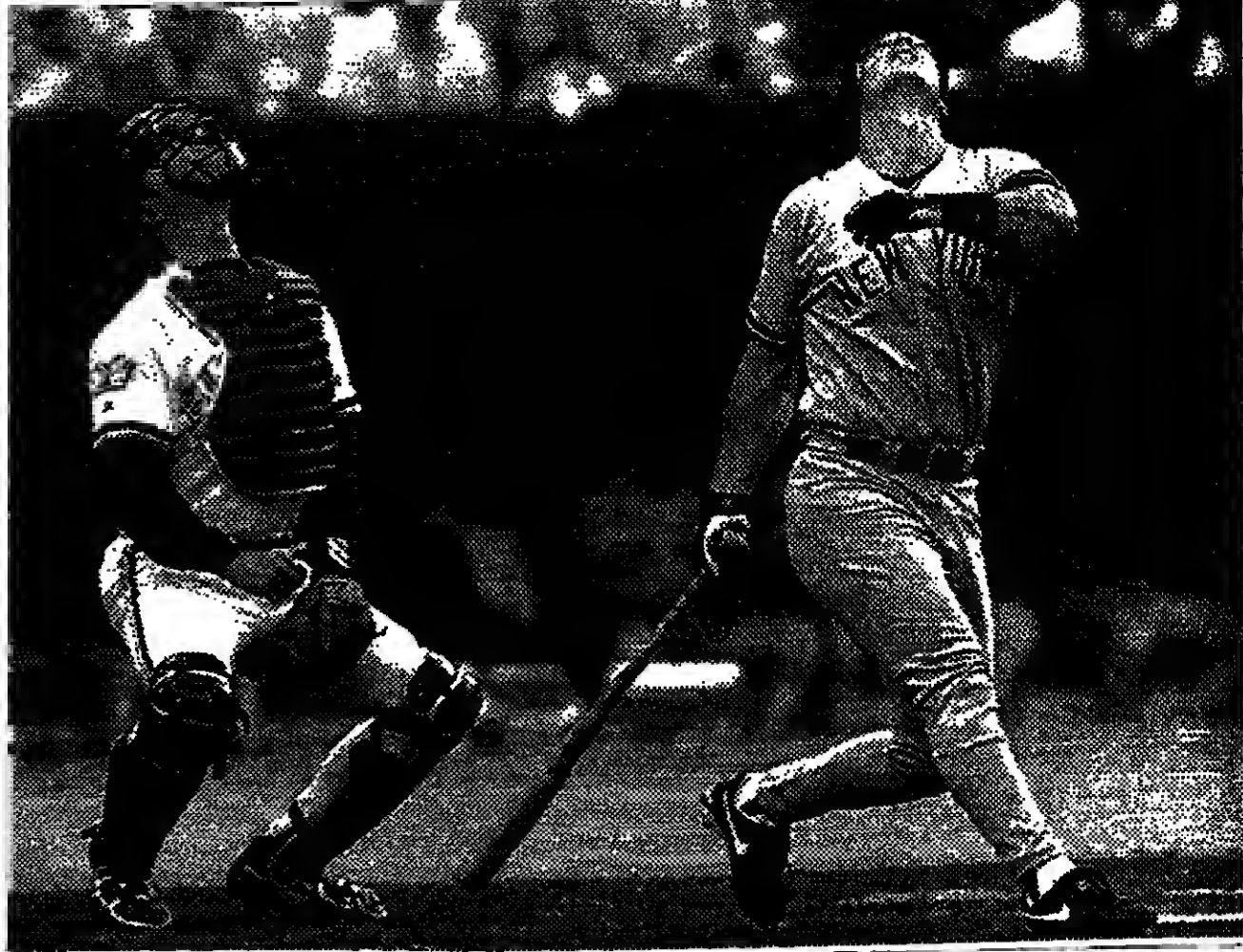
Breeders' Cup Limited executive director D.G. Van Clief had announced Thursday that the event would be moved out of Canada because of a labour dispute and a lockout that had gone on since February.

Cup officials had been seeking an alternative site for the seven-race series with purses estimated at \$11 million and Churchill Downs had been considered a likely possibility.

But the news of labour peace at Woodbine came in time to restore plans to hold the Breeders' Cup outside the United States for the first time in its 12-year history.

"The Breeders' Cup is absolutely delighted that the issue has been resolved," said Breeders' Cup President Ted Bassett.

"We're looking forward to bringing the championship to Toronto with even greater enthusiasm than we had before."



New York Yankees Tino Martinez (right) and Toronto Blue Jays catcher Charlie O'Brien look for the ball after Martinez hit a pop fly foul during second inning action June 10. In the first inning Martinez hit a three run homer. New York defeated Toronto 5-3 (Reuters photo)

## Davis and Snow homer in 10th for Angels win

KANSAS CITY (R) — Chili Davis and J.T. Snow hit back-to-back homers with two out in the top of the 10th inning to lift the California Angels to a 7-5 victory over the Kansas City Royals Monday.

Tim Lincecum (0-1) retired Don Slaught and Orlando Palmeiro on lineouts to begin the 10th. But Tim Salmon singled and Davis hit a 1-1 pitch over the right-field wall for his 11th home run of the season and a 6-4 lead. Snow then hit Pugh's next pitch out for his seventh homer.

Chuck McLeroy (1-0) worked out of a first-and-third, one-out jam in the ninth for his first American League victory. Troy Percival allowed a run in the bottom of the 10th, but notched his 14th save.

Davis had four hits and Salmon also homered — his 12th in the fifth inning — for the Angels, who have won two in a row after a six-game losing streak. California also snapped an eight-game losing streak to the Royals.

The game went into extra innings after Craig Paquette homered in the eighth off California starter Mark Langston to tie the game at 4-4. Langston allowed four runs and seven hits with a season-high nine strikeouts over eight innings.

In Cleveland, Charles Nagy scattered nine hits over seven innings to become the American League's first 10-game winner and Manny Ramirez and Kenny Lofton belted solo homers as the Indians beat the Oakland Athletics 5-4.

Nagy (10-1) allowed four runs and one walk, while striking out seven to improve to 6-0 in seven starts following an Indians' loss as Cleveland became the first team to win 40 games this season.

Jose Mesa pitched a perfect ninth to notch his major league-leading 22nd save.

Oakland's Mark McGwire hit his 16th homer, a solo shot off Nagy in the seventh, and has reached base in all 40 games he has played this season.

In Toronto, Tino Martinez hit a three-run homer to key a four-run first inning and Jimmy Key allowed two runs over 5 2/3 innings as the New York Yankees held on for a 5-3 victory over the Blue Jays.

Key (3-6) allowed four hits, walked one and struck out six as he averaged last Tuesday's 12-7 loss to the Jays.

John Wetteland allowed one run in the ninth for his 15th save, handing Toronto its fifth straight loss.

Joe Carter hit his 13th homer for Toronto's final run in the ninth and Ed Sprague followed with a double, but Jacob Brumfield, who homered earlier, flied out to the left-field fence and Sandy Martinez struck out, ending the threat.

In Chicago, Kevin Tapani struck out nine in eight innings and Ray Durham and Robin Ventura each drove in two runs to lead the White Sox to an 8-2 win over the Boston Red Sox.

Tapani (7-3), who improved to 9-0 lifetime against the Red Sox, allowed two runs, five hits and two walks as the White Sox won for the 19th time in 22 games and remained tied for the Central Division lead with Cleveland.

Chicago has won 10 straight home games, its longest streak since 1989.

In Detroit, Omar Olivares scattered four hits over eight scoreless innings for his first win in two months and Tony Clark homered and drove in two runs as the Tigers handed the Baltimore Orioles their fourth straight loss, 8-3.

Olivares (2-2) struck out six and did not allow a runner past second base for his first win since April 10.

With the Tigers up 8-0, Mike Walker gave up back-to-back homers to Baltimore's Bobby Bonilla and Cal Ripken in the ninth as Detroit failed to record its first shutout.

At Minnesota, Greg Myers homered twice and drove in four runs and Ron Coomer's two-run blast highlighted a four-run fifth inning as the Twins belted five homers in a 13-6 trouncing of the Seattle Mariners.

Myers hit a solo shot in the seventh to make it 7-5 and added a three-run blast in the eighth for a 13-5 bulge and the first multi-homer game of his career.

Coomer's seventh homer of the season gave the Twins a 6-3 lead. Paul Molitor smacked a solo homer in the fourth and Scott Stahovick hit a three-run shot in the seventh.

At Texas, Kevin Gross scattered seven hits over eight-plus innings and Darryl Hamilton drove in three runs as the Rangers stayed hot with an 8-3 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers.

The Rangers won for the 11th time in 15 games and increased their lead in the west to 6 1/2 games over Seattle. Mark McLemore paced a 14-hit attack with three hits and

Ivan Rodriguez and Kevin Elster each drove in two runs for Texas, which improved to a major-league best 26-9 at home.

Gross (6-4) gave up three runs for the win. Brian Givens (0-1) was roughed up for six runs and eight hits in 2 2/3 innings for the loss.

### Mets beat Braves

Switch hitting catcher Todd Hundley had four hits, including homers from each side of the plate, and Bobby Jones tossed 7 1/3 scoreless innings as the New York Mets shocked the Atlanta Braves 8-3 on Monday.

Jones (6-2) allowed 12 hits and two walks but struck out six, mostly in key situations. He left with a 6-0 lead and the bases loaded in the eighth but reliever Dave Mlicki struck out the final two batters of the inning.

The Braves scored three runs in the ninth off Mlicki on Fred McGriff's 16th homer and Braves shortstop Jeff Blauser's lead five singles in the losing effort.

"I can't remember getting five hits in a game, even in high school," Blauser said.

Hundley, who had his fourth career multiple homer game, tied a career-high with his 15th and 16th homers. It marked the third time in his career and second time this season that he has homered both left-handed and right-handed.

A near brawl erupted when Jones appeared to throw at Atlanta starter Steve Avery (6-5) in the fifth inning in apparent retaliation for Avery hitting Jose Vizcaino in the knee in the fourth, forcing him out of the game.

Home plate umpire Charlie Williams warned Jones, angry Mets manager Dallas Green charged out of the dugout and Atlanta's Marquis Grissom charged Hundley, grabbing him around the throat.

Both benches emptied but order was quickly restored.

In Montreal, Devon White's RBI single in the ninth inning snapped a 1-1 tie and triggered a four-run outburst as the Florida Marlins beat the Expos 5-2.

Greg Colburn homered in the second and added a two-run single in the ninth for a 5-1 cushion.

Robb Nen (3-0) pitched the final 1 2/3 innings for the win, allowing one run and a walk with one strikeout.

In Philadelphia, Terry Shumpert's sacrifice fly broke an eighth-inning tie and Jaime Navarro pitched a three-hitter to lead the Chicago Cubs to a 2-1 win over the Phillies.

With the score tied 1-1, Brian McRae started the Cubs' eighth with a single. He was bunted to second by Doug Glanville, went to third on a wild pitch by loser Terry Mulholland (5-5) and came home when Shumpert flied to deep left-center.

At Colorado, Sean Berry hit a two-run homer, Derek Bell hit a solo shot and Donnie Wall won his third straight decision as the Houston Astros held on for a 10-9 win over the Rockies.

The Astros scored three runs in the top of the eighth to take a commanding 10-3 lead, but Wall tired and allowed a two-run homer to Andres Galaraga in the bottom half. Dean Hartgraves and Todd Jones allowed four runs in the ninth and the Rockies had the tying run at second base when Todd Jones retired Quinton McCracken on a ground-out to end it.

In Los Angeles, Chan Ho Park and two relievers combined on a three-hitter as the Dodgers beat the St. Louis Cardinals 2-1.

Park (4-2), who had not allowed a run in six previous outings, allowed one run and one hit in five innings. He walked five and struck out six. Mark Guthrie allowed one hit in three scoreless innings with four strikeouts and Antonio Osuna worked the ninth for his second save.

In San Diego, Thomas Howard's two-run single highlighted a four-run eighth inning as the Cincinnati Reds rallied from 3-2 down for a 6-3 victory over the slumping Padres.

Lee Smith (1-1) retired the final batter in the seventh for his first victory with the Reds. Jeff Brantley worked the final two innings for his 15th save of the season and 100th of his career.

In San Francisco, rookie Jason Kendall singled home Orlando Merced to snap an eighth-inning tie as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Giants 5-4 for their eighth win in nine games.

## Trail Blazers assistant coach moves to one of NBA's worst teams

PHILADELPHIA (R) — The Philadelphia 76ers Monday named Portland Trail Blazers assistant coach Johnny Davis as its new head coach.

In becoming the 17th head coach in Sixers history, Davis inherits one of the worst teams in the National Basketball Association.

He replaces John Lucas, who compiled a woeful 42-122 record in two seasons at the 76ers helm. Philadelphia posted the second worst record in the league this season — 18-64 — with fewer wins than the first-year expansion Toronto Raptors and just three more than the league-worst Vancouver Grizzlies, also a first-year team.

The new coach immediately began preaching the gospel according to

Johnny Davis at Monday's news conference.

"I'm here to bring respectability to a team that has lost respect. I am going to give guidance to a team that has lost its way," Davis said of the first team in league history to see its win total drop for six consecutive seasons.

"I have been getting ready for this job for 19 years. I'm ready," said Davis, who spent the last two seasons as an assistant coach with Portland.

Davis joins new Sixers general manager Brad Greenberg, a former vice president of player personnel for the Trail Blazers who called Davis "uniquely qualified."

"He possesses the total package for NBA coaching success,"

Greenberg said of his coaching choice.

Davis's six-year NBA coaching career also includes stops as assistants with the Los Angeles Clippers (1993-94) and Atlanta Hawks (1990-93).

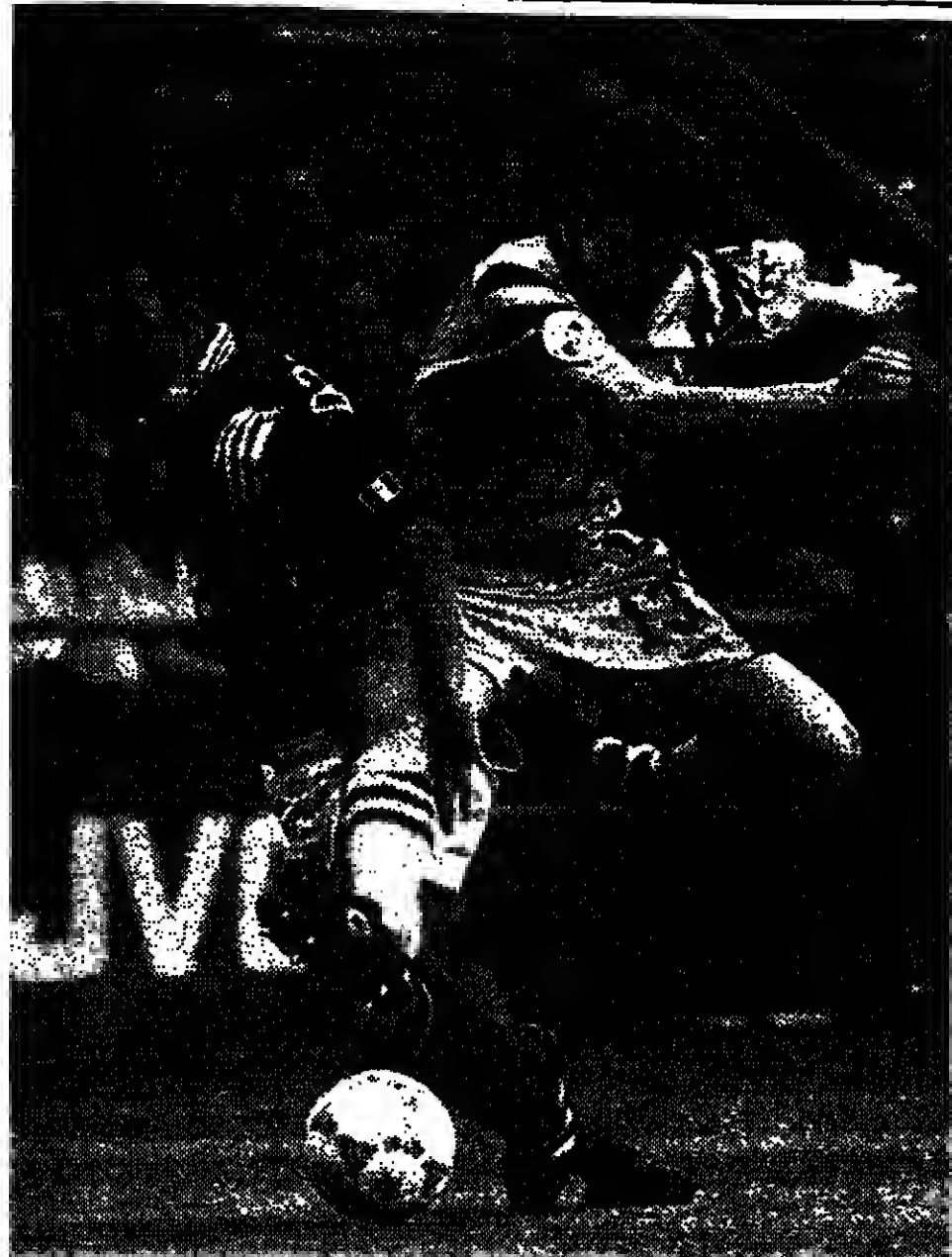
Davis played 10 seasons in the NBA with Portland, Indiana, Atlanta and Cleveland. He was a member of Portland's 1977 NBA championship team.

"This is the right time to renew interest in the 76ers," Davis said.

"We've got a new owner, new general manager, new arena, new coach and the first pick in the draft. If you can't be excited about that, ..."

<p><b>TODAY AT</b></p>	<p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p><b>Before Sunrise</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p>Nick Nolte &amp; Julia Roberts In <b>I love Trouble</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p>Clint Eastwood &amp; Meryl Streep * <b>The Bridges of Madison County</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> <p><b>CONCORD "2"</b></p> <p>*Mrs. Doubtfire Show: 3:30 Under Siege</p> <p>Shows: 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p>Will Shortly present Zawad Weld Awad theatre group in a play entitled <b>Five-Star Government</b></p> <p>Starring comedians: <b>Mahmoud Saimeh &amp; Hussein Tubeishat</b></p>	<p><b>Wanda D. McRath's Theatre</b></p> <p><b>PRESENTS</b></p> <p><b>THE SATIRICAL COMEDY</b></p> <p><b>Arab Human Rights</b></p> <p>at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>For reservation please call 625155 - 640155</p>
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Youri Djorkaeff of France (L) and Tibor Selymes of Romania fight for the control of the ball during their European Soccer Championship match, June 10. France won the match with the score of 1-0 (Reuters photo)

## French happy to win without Cantona and Co.

NEWCASTLE (R) — Goalscorer hero Christophe Dugarry believes France proved they are ready to make a serious impact on Euro 96 and have no need for England-based Eric Cantona and David Ginola.

The bearded striker, whose looping first-half header was enough to overcome Romania Monday and extended France's unbeaten run to 24 games,

beamed with pleasure as he and coach Aime Jacquet looked ahead to their next clash with Spain at Leeds on Saturday.

"We have made a good start and that was very important for us," said Dugarry. "We did it without Cantona and without Ginola and that was important too. It has proved we do not need to rely anymore on these moody kind of people."

"We are not here to be the sparring partners of the other teams, but to win and to go as far as we can in the tournament."

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## Yellow fever epidemic at Euro 96

LONDON (R) — Euro 96 is suffering from a serious attack of yellow fever just three days into the tournament.

Italian referee Piero Cecchini set the tone on Sunday with seven yellow and two red cards in the drawn Bulgaria-Spain clash in Leeds.

English match official David Elleray then flashed his yellow card 10 times in Manchester as the German favourites opened up in style with a 2-0 win over the Czech Republic.

Six players — four Portuguese and two Danes — were cautioned in the closing match of the day, the third draw of the finals.

On Saturday, the yellow card was produced six times in the drawn opening game between England and Switzerland.

Bulgaria's 1-1 stalemate with Spain was overshadowed by the double dismissal of their defender Petar Hubchev and Spanish striker Juan Pizzi. They are both automatically suspended for their next match.

The dismissals were the first in 12 years of European championship finals and the seventh and eighth in total.

England's Alan Mullery was the first to be shown the red card in 1968.

## Euro '96

### Casiraghi double justifies Sacchi's faith

LIVERPOOL (R) — Pierluigi Casiraghi repaid Italy coach Arrigo Sacchi with two goals to steer Italy to a 2-1 victory over a determined Russian side at Anfield Tuesday.

Sacchi stuck his neck out by preferring Lazio striker Casiraghi to Fabrizio Ravanelli of Juventus in his line-up for the side's opening Euro 96 game in Group C. Casiraghi amply justified his inclusion with well-taken goals in the fourth and 51st minutes.

Russia played some excellent football before halftime, equalising through Ilya Tsymlar

after 20 minutes, but spent most of the second-half on the defensive as Italy, inspired by Parma's Gianfranco Zola, raised their game several notches.

The Italians could even afford to pull off the gifted Alessandro Del Piero at the interval, another Sacchi decision which paid off handsomely.

Italy managed just two wins in 11 matches against the former Soviet Union, both on home soil, and were suitably grateful for an early Russian gift courtesy of Stanislav Cherchesov.

The goalkeeper mishit a

clearance straight to an unmarked Angelo Di Livio whose first-time ball gave the lurking Casiraghi space to swivel and find the far corner from 25 metres with Cherchesov stranded.

Against a side of Italy's defensive capabilities it was a serious blow but the Russians produced some composed moves and deserved their equaliser after 20 minutes.

Onopko gathered the ball on the edge of the area and Valery Karpin's subsequent shot was deflected into the path of Tsymlar.

The Italians were looking a shade casual and the pace

of Andrei Kanchelskis down the right gave the normally peerless Italian captain Paolo Maldini some rare anxious moments.

Russia also put pressure on a strained Italian offside trap and Igor Kolyvanov was harshly booked for kicking the ball away in frustration after a hairline decision had gone against him.

The appearance of the experienced Donadoni in place of Del Piero merely underlined Sacchi's refusal to favour celebrity players, with Roberto Baggio not even in his squad for the tournament.

## F.A. defend England trio's late-night drinking

LONDON (R) — The Football Association have defended three members of England's European Championship squad seen drinking in a nightclub early on Sunday morning just hours after Saturday's 1-1 disappointing draw with Switzerland.

Striker Teddy Sheringham, midfielder Jamie Redknapp and defender Sol Campbell visited the club, near London, after being released along with the rest of their colleagues from the England training camp for 48 hours following the Euro 96 opener.

But F.A. official Steve Double said: "They were perfectly in order. They had been given permission to go out and relax. "Certainly there was no question of them not having a beer during the course of the weekend. As long as they didn't cause any offence, we didn't have a problem."

The latest publicity follows hot on the heels of the furore that surrounded the England squad's behaviour in a Hong Kong nightclub on their Far East tour and the 5,000 pounds (\$7,700) of damage caused to their plane on the way home.

The Sun newspaper said Tuesday Sheringham had stood by the nightclub's dance floor with a drink in his hand, chatting to admir-

ers. Campbell and Redknapp had been seen drinking beer. The three men had stayed until around 2.20 in the morning.

England coach Terry Venables had said after the Wembley opening game against the Swiss that his players were tired.

But Double stressed: "Terry knew about it. There was no ban on nightclubs in their own time."

"When they are at Burnham Beeches (training camp), they observe an alcohol ban. But once they are allowed home, which they were for 48 hours at the weekend, they are entitled to have a drink if everyone behaves them-

selves."

The F.A. wanted the players to capitalise on one of the advantages of being the tournament's hosts, with England's next game not being until a week later against Scotland.

"It is one of the advantages of being the host nation," said Double. "There's little point in them being cooped up in a hotel night after night when you're in your home country."

England's squad have now reported back to Burnham Beeches to begin the build-up for the match with Scotland Saturday.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Tunisia opens office in Gaza

GAZA CITY (AP) — Tunisia on Tuesday opened a representative office in the Palestinian-controlled Gaza Strip, the fifth Arab country to do so. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat presided over the brief ceremony, raising a Tunisian flag in the courtyard of the Gaza City building where the office will be housed. "Here, in this place we raise the Tunisian flag and I hope very soon we will raise it in Jerusalem," Mr. Arafat told reporters. Since the start of Palestinian self-rule in May 1994, four other Arab countries — Egypt, Morocco, Jordan and Djibouti — have set up representative offices in Gaza. Last week Tunisia opened an interest office at a Tel Aviv hotel as part of its budding ties with Israel.

## De Charette arrives in Qatar

DOHA (R) — French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette arrived in Qatar early on Tuesday on his first visit to the emirate since assuming office last year, the official Qatari News Agency said. French officials have said the minister, who is also due to visit neighbouring United Arab Emirates, will discuss political and economic issues and efforts by French firms to secure lucrative deals in the oil-rich region. "France wants to strengthen its cooperation and trade with both these countries," a French foreign ministry spokesman said earlier in Paris. French firms are competing for several commercial and military deals in the region, including a Qatari requirement for some 50 main battle tanks.

## UAE, Saudi citizens to join civil service

DUBAI (R) — The United Arab Emirates has decided to appoint nationals to vacant government jobs in an effort to lessen dependence on expatriate workers, newspapers reported on Tuesday. The UAE's cabinet decided at a meeting on Monday to "appoint citizens in vacant jobs in federal ministries and in non-specialised posts if needed," the semi-official Al Ittihad daily said. The president of the seven-emirate federation, Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan, has been urging able youths to seek employment in a country where 75 per cent of the 2.37 million population is foreign.

## 2 policemen killed in Suez City

CAIRO (AP) — Three suspected militants killed two policemen near the Suez Canal on Tuesday, tried to rob a jewelry store and then led police on a wild chase across the desert. Police caught one of the assailants on the outskirts of Cairo, and were searching for the other two. The unidentified man told police that he was one of the gunmen who massacred 18 Greek tourists at a hotel near the Giza Pyramids in April. Police did not say whether they believed the claim. The chase began in Suez when two traffic policemen stopped a truck in a busy market and asked the three passengers for registration papers. The men opened fire, killing the policemen. The assailants abandoned the truck, commandeered a taxi and went to a nearby jewelry store, police said. Crowds prevented the men from robbing the shop, and they fled in the taxi along the desert road to Cairo, 130 kilometres northwest of Suez.

## Muslim leader urges Arafat to free activists

CAIRO (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat should free hundreds of militants and allow them to attack Israel, an Egyptian Islamic leader said Tuesday. Mustafa Mashoor, who heads the powerful Muslim Brotherhood, said last month's election of right-wing Benjamin Netanyahu as Israel's prime minister makes such a move necessary. The Brotherhood, Egypt's largest Muslim fundamentalist group, has renounced violence in its campaign to bring about Islamic rule in Egypt. But it has long opposed peace with Israel. "It is now the duty of Yasser Arafat to release all the youth of Hamas and Jihad after the enemy continues policies of starvation, refuses to withdraw from Golan Heights and restricts the already limited power of the Palestinian (National) Authority," Mr. Mashoor wrote in his column in Al Shaab, a weekly Egyptian opposition newspaper. "If he does that he will raise the morale of the Palestinians and all will be ready for martyrdom operations," he said, referring to suicide bombings that have killed dozens of Israelis. Leaders of Hamas say as many as 400 of their activists are detained in Palestinian jails.

## Former princesses demand palace, lands

CAIRO (AP) — Three daughters of Egypt's last king went to court Tuesday to demand a palace in Cairo and 150 acres of prime real estate from the government. Princesses Fadia, Fawziya and Ferial say the property belonged to their mother, Queen Farida, and now rightfully belongs to them. The daughters have lived in Switzerland since their father, Farouk, was overthrown in a military coup in 1952. His departure marked the end of a dynasty that had ruled Egypt since 1805. The princesses want back Tahra Palace, which is now used to house visiting dignitaries. They also want 150 acres of land scattered around Cairo and outside the capital. Their lawyers contended in court Tuesday that since their mother was divorced from their father in 1940, they are not bound by a 1953 law which says that the royal family cannot go to court to demand its properties.

## Sudan picks ex-generals for government posts

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's military president Omar Hassan al-Bashir has appointed three retired generals to government posts, the official SUNA news agency said on Tuesday. It said Lieutenant General Mansour Abdul Rahim and Major General Mohammad Al Radi Nassereddin were appointed as junior ministers at the ministry of defence. Airforce Major General Al-Fatih Mohammad Ahmad Irwa, who held the junior defence ministry post until last April's cabinet reshuffle, was appointed ambassador at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SUNA said. Gen. Irwa was recently proposed as ambassador to the United States but Washington blocked his appointment, citing links with human rights abuses in Sudan.

## Chinese minister signs accord with Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — China will provide Egypt weapons under an agreement signed Tuesday to bolster military cooperation. The agreement was signed by Defence Minister Chi Haotian and his Egyptian counterpart, Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi. The cost of the weapons, which will be provided as a grant, was not disclosed. Mr. Chi's five-day visit to Cairo is the last stop on an Arab tour that has taken him to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. He earlier met President Hosni Mubarak. China provides Egypt with spare parts and expertise in maintaining arms imported from the Eastern bloc.

## Blast rips Moscow subway; 3 said dead

MOSCOW (AP) — An explosion ripped through a Moscow subway car Tuesday night, killing three people and seriously injuring five others, police said. It was not immediately clear whether the blast was caused by a bomb, said police spokesman Vyacheslav Yakovlev. The explosion occurred on a train approaching the Tsvetskaya station in southern Moscow, metro duty officer Natalia Pomakhina said. Rescue workers were evacuating the passengers in thick smoke.

## SECURITY IN HEBRON

A Palestinian boy glances up at Israeli soldiers questioning a Palestinian man in the centre of the West Bank town of Hebron as he and his mother walk home with their shopping on Tuesday. Israel stepped up security and conducted searches in the town in the wake of the fatal shooting of a settler couple by suspected Palestinian militants in central Israel about 24 kilometres away late on Sunday night. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. (Reuters photo)



## Bahrain tells Iran to take own initiative to improve GCC ties

MANAMA (Agencies) — Iran should take the initiative to improve relations with Gulf Arab states, including Bahrain, Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa said just one week after Bahrain accused Tehran of backing a plot to topple it. "Iran... has no choice but to maintain good relations with its neighbours. Good neighbourliness and intentions are the target of all to the good and interest of regional states," the official Gulf News Agency quoted him as saying on Monday. "Iran should take the initiative," said Sheikh Hamad, who is also commander-in-chief of the Bahrain Defence Force.

Sheikh Hamad, who was also quoted as saying the situation in Bahrain was under control, was speaking to reporters after a meeting in Manama of defence chiefs of staff of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Foreign Ministers of the GCC — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain — on June 2 called on Iran not to interfere in their internal affairs and expressed concern over the Islamic republic's arms buildup.

The following day Bahrain said it had foiled a pro-Iranian plot to topple the government by force and install a regime sympathetic to Tehran. It recalled its ambassador from Tehran and downgraded diplomatic relations to charge d'affaires.

Iran denied the charges and on Monday renewed an offer to mediate between Bahrain's Sunni-dominated government and its Shiite Muslim opponents. Iran also proposed sending a fact-finding mission to Manama to review accusations that it backed the alleged plot.

In Tehran, Iran News daily, quoted by the official Iranian news agency IRNA, said on Tuesday the rulers of Bahrain should accept Iran's mediation offer before their country turned into another Algeria.

It said Bahrainis were reluctant to turn to neighbouring countries for a just mediation because "the simple fact is that all of Bahrain's neighbours have the same ruling system that is under fire in Manama."

Iran News added "it is Iran's declared policy to work for peace and stability in the region."

Meanwhile, Bahrain's state security court set up to speed judgements is continuing to try hundreds of people detained in connection with 18 months of unrest, but no new ruling has been passed in the past few days, lawyers said on Tuesday.

Among the detainees are eight opposition leaders, including Sheikh Abdel-Amir Al-Jamri, a prominent cleric and former member of the parliament dissolved in 1975. At least 25 people were killed in disturbances which erupted in December 1994.

Sheikh Hamad also said Monday the issue of terrorism would be on the agenda for the forthcoming Arab summit in Cairo.

Sheikh Hamad said there was a "general agreement for the issue of terrorism to be raised during the summit."

The June 21-23 summit is aimed at closing Arab talks to define a common stand in face of any threat to the Middle East peace process after the victory of right-wing leader Benjamin Netanyahu in last month's Israeli elections over Shimon Peres, the architect of the peace agreement with Palestinians.

## Row over Mitchell continues to snag N.Ireland peace talks

IRA's political wing kept out of discussions predicted to be prolonged and complicated

BELFAST (Agency) — The American politician who is supposed to oversee Northern Ireland's peace talks was kept out again Tuesday, as Protestants refused to let him take his seat.

Protestant unionists rejected a proposal by British and Irish officials that former U.S. Senate majority leader George Mitchell take over as chairman, and then the talks could focus on defining his role, said Robert McCartney, leader of the small United Kingdom Unionist Party. "Our opposition to Mitchell has absolutely nothing to do with his personal character, or his human decency," Mr. McCartney said during a break in the talks.

"The pro-union people are faced with a situation where Mitchell has been endorsed not only by the Irish government and the SDLP (the

main Catholic party) but by violent republicanism in the form of (Sinn Fein President) Gerry Adams."

Pro-British hardliners led by the Rev. Ian Paisley threatened to withdraw because of Mr. Mitchell. "If he's in, I'm out," Mr. Paisley said.

Sinn Fein, the party allied to the Irish Republican Army (IRA), has been excluded from the negotiations until the IRA calls a new ceasefire.

Irish Prime Minister John Bruton lashed out at Sinn Fein leaders Tuesday for refusing to condemn the killing of a police officer in Adare in western Ireland. Police say they have ballistic evidence linking Friday's attack to the IRA, although the outlawed organisation has denied it.

"It makes me feel there is an ambiguity in Sinn Fein's attitude still, and I believe

the only way that that ambiguity can be removed is if there is a definitive ceasefire and violence is forsworn for good," Mr. Bruton said in an interview with Ireland's RTE Radio.

One Irish man has been charged with possessing firearms and of IRA membership in connection with the officer's death.

Mr. Adams said he accepted the IRA statement that it was not involved and said attacks on Sinn Fein because of the attack were politically motivated.

"It is clear that the killing at Adare can form no part in the republican struggle. On the contrary actions such as this would be a disservice to that struggle," Mr. Adams said.

Five hours of debate on the (Continued on page 7)

## Iran says 3 held for 'CIA spying'

TEHRAN (R) — Iran said on Tuesday it had arrested three people for "military espionage" for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Tehran Radio quoted armed forces judiciary head Ali Yunesi as saying the three unnamed people were also charged with "passing military information at time of war to the American spying organisation CIA."

He said the cases were being prepared for trial on charges including having contacts with an unnamed foreign embassy.

Mr. Yunesi's office is usually in charge of cases involving members of the Iranian armed forces. The charges appeared to date

from the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

The report came amid heightened tension with Washington which has been increasing its pressure on Iran after imposing a trade and investment ban on Islamic republic last June.

Iran said last week it had allocated \$14.3 million to counter U.S. "plots" against it and raised its defence budget by 30 per cent.

It was not clear whether the allocation was separate from a \$20 million budget approved by the Iranian parliament in January to match dollar-for-dollar a covert action plan against Iran discussed by the U.S. Congress.

The parliament last month

passed a law imposing the death sentence for espionage, singling out agents of the United States and Israel.

It covered spying in military, political, security, economic, social and scientific fields and was considerably tougher than a previous law which imposed the death penalty only for military and security espionage.

The U.S. Congress has been discussing a bill which aims to pressure non-U.S. firms not to trade with Iran. The European Union has opposed the measure.

Washington accuses Tehran of sponsoring terrorism and trying to develop nuclear arms.

## Netanyahu: No change in policy vis-a-vis Turkey

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu said on Tuesday that under his leadership Israel's policy toward Turkey would continue unchanged.

"We will continue our traditional policy. There is no change here in our position," Mr. Netanyahu told reporters after meeting Israeli President Ezer Weizman who left shortly afterwards for Turkey.

Mr. Weizman's visit, during which he may meet his Turkish counterpart Suleyman Demirel, follows Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia on Saturday urging Turkey to reconsider a military deal with Israel, which has also seen Israeli air force planes training in Turkish airspace.

Mr. Weizman was to attend the United Nations Habitat II conference on human settlement in Turkey, his office said.

Mr. Weizman told reporters: "Turkey today is our serious friend."

Turkey said on Monday its air force planes took part in training flights in Israel last month under a military accord which has drawn sharp criticism from Muslim states.

"It's true, I can confirm that... in the later part of May there have been some Turkish air force flights in Israel under the framework of this agreement," foreign ministry spokesman Omer Akbel told a news briefing.

He said 12 Turkish planes had flown in Israel and had since returned. Ankara has tried to play down the importance of the military deal, which analysts say puts pressure on Syria.

Mr. Akbel reiterated Turkey's stance that the accord was not aimed at any third country. Israel's deputy military

chief called for closer military ties during a recent visit to Turkey. NATO-member Turkey has long-running disputes with Damascus over sharing the waters of the Euphrates River and Syria's alleged support for Kurdish rebels.

Mr. Weizman and Turkish leaders were expected to discuss the U.S.-backed military pact.

The February agreement reportedly allows Israel to conduct surveillance flights along the Syrian and Iranian borders. Further cooperation could include joint naval manoeuvres and possible arms sales.

Mr. Weizman was expected to bring up a potential deal to sell Israeli radar systems to the Turkish air force, Israeli Radio said Tuesday.

Mr. Weizman's trip will be the first to Turkey by an Israeli leader since the May 29 elections in which Mr. Netanyahu defeated Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

The president refused to discuss his agenda.

"What is important is that Turkey is a serious friend of ours and I will have the opportunity to meet with several people there," Mr. Weizman said.

In Istanbul, Mr. Weizman said Israel's military agreement with Turkey does not pose a danger to Syria.

"If the Arab countries think that a training agreement with Turkey will one day lead to a grand attack by Israel and Turkey on Syria, this is absolutely stupid," Mr. Weizman told reporters after a meeting with President Demirel.

Mr. Weizman told reporters he also told Mr. Demirel the Mideast peace process would continue under Israel's new leadership.

## Drug 'found' in Gaza rights activist's office

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — The Palestinian attorney general said Tuesday that illegal drugs were found in a police raid of the office of human rights activist Eyad Sarraj, a leading critic of Yasser Arafat.

Dr. Sarraj's attorney said he believed the drugs were planted to justify keeping Dr. Sarraj in jail.

Dr. Sarraj, who has denounced Mr. Arafat's rule as corrupt and dictatorial, was detained Sunday night for the second time this month. He was not given a reason.

"We don't believe Sarraj has anything to do with drugs. We have the impression the drugs were planted in his office," said Rhys Johnson, who works in the office of Dr. Sarraj's lawyer, Raji Sourani.

On Monday, police raided the Gaza City office of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens Rights which is headed by Dr. Sarraj. Police took tapes, files and documents, then welded Dr. Sarraj's private office shut, an aide said.

Mr. Sourani said he has not been allowed to see his client.

"All these measures against him are unacceptable," Mr. Sourani told the Associated Press.

The attorney general, Khaled Kidra, said Tuesday that drugs were found in Dr. Sarraj's office, but would not give details.

"There is no relation between his arrest and freedom of expression," he said. "When the investigation is completed, we will announce the details of the charges."

Dr. Sarraj was first arrested May 18 and held for nine days after he called Mr. Arafat's regime corrupt and dictatorial. He said in an interview with the New York Times that the Palestinian security forces made arbitrary arrests and tortured their detainees.

Following his release, Dr. Sarraj, a psychologist and the head of a mental health centre in Gaza, renewed his condemnation of the Palestinian National Authority's (PNA) human rights record.

Mr. Kidra said earlier that Dr. Sarraj could still be tried on charges of libel, incitement, and harming the public interest.

## COLUMN

## Mickey Mouse to make debut at Rio Carnival

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Mickey Mouse will make his debut at the Rio Carnival parade next year, but there will be no chance of his cartoon girlfriend Minnie making a bare-breasted appearance, a Disney executive said Monday. Samba school Academico da Rocinha will be allowed to use Disney's trademark cartoon characters to celebrate the 25 years of the Walt Disney World theme park in Orlando, Florida — as long as all the women dancers accompanying the parade keep their sequined clothes on. "That was my first condition and thank goodness they agreed," said Carlos Gonzalez, director of marketing with Walt Disney Attractions in Miami. "Our target is the family in every part of the world and Brazil is no exception." Izamilton Goes, president of Academico da Rocinha, dismissed suggestions the cover-up would detract from the spectacle of the parade, which will feature about 4,000 dancers and giant models of the Disney characters. "Inside all of us there remains something of a child and we all loved Disney," Mr. Goes said.

## Prince Albert to throw Monaco's 700th birthday party

PARIS (R) — Prince Albert, who is being groomed by his father Prince Rainier to rule the miniature state of Monaco, has been entrusted with throwing the principality's 700th birthday party. The celebration will begin on Jan. 8, 1997, and go on for 10 months of fireworks, sporting events, concerts, car races, plays, art shows, even a meeting of the International Whaling Commission, the prince told a Paris news conference Monday. It was on Jan. 8, 1297, that Francois Grimaldi, disguised as a monk, sneaked into a Genoese fortress, let in his soldiers and established the Grimaldi dynasty in what is now Monaco.

## Chinese girl of 8 weighs 3.5 kg, wants to grow

BEIJING (R) — An eight-year-old Chinese girl who weighs only 3.5 kilograms (7.7 lbs) and is just 66 centimetres (26 inches) tall wants to find a way to grow, the Xinhua News Agency said. Zhao Lujun, the only child of a farmer in Tanghe county in central Henan province, has undergone medical tests in Beijing and Shanghai, but her growth is considered normal, Xinhua said. More than 100 organisations and individuals throughout China have written to her, offering economic support to help her find a way to grow.

## Belgian balloonists in close shave with church

BRUSSELS (R) — Three Belgian balloonists came closer to heaven than they intended when their rainbow-coloured hot air balloon got stuck 60 metres (200 feet) up a church spire in Ghent. The balloon drifted into metal ornaments on top of the spire, deflated and left the three dangling precariously in the basket for about 40 minutes, Belgian media reported. Fire services used a giant crane to stop the canopy, ripping and tipping the balloonists to almost certain death, while firemen hacked a hole through the roof and rescued the three who were taken to hospital suffering from shock.